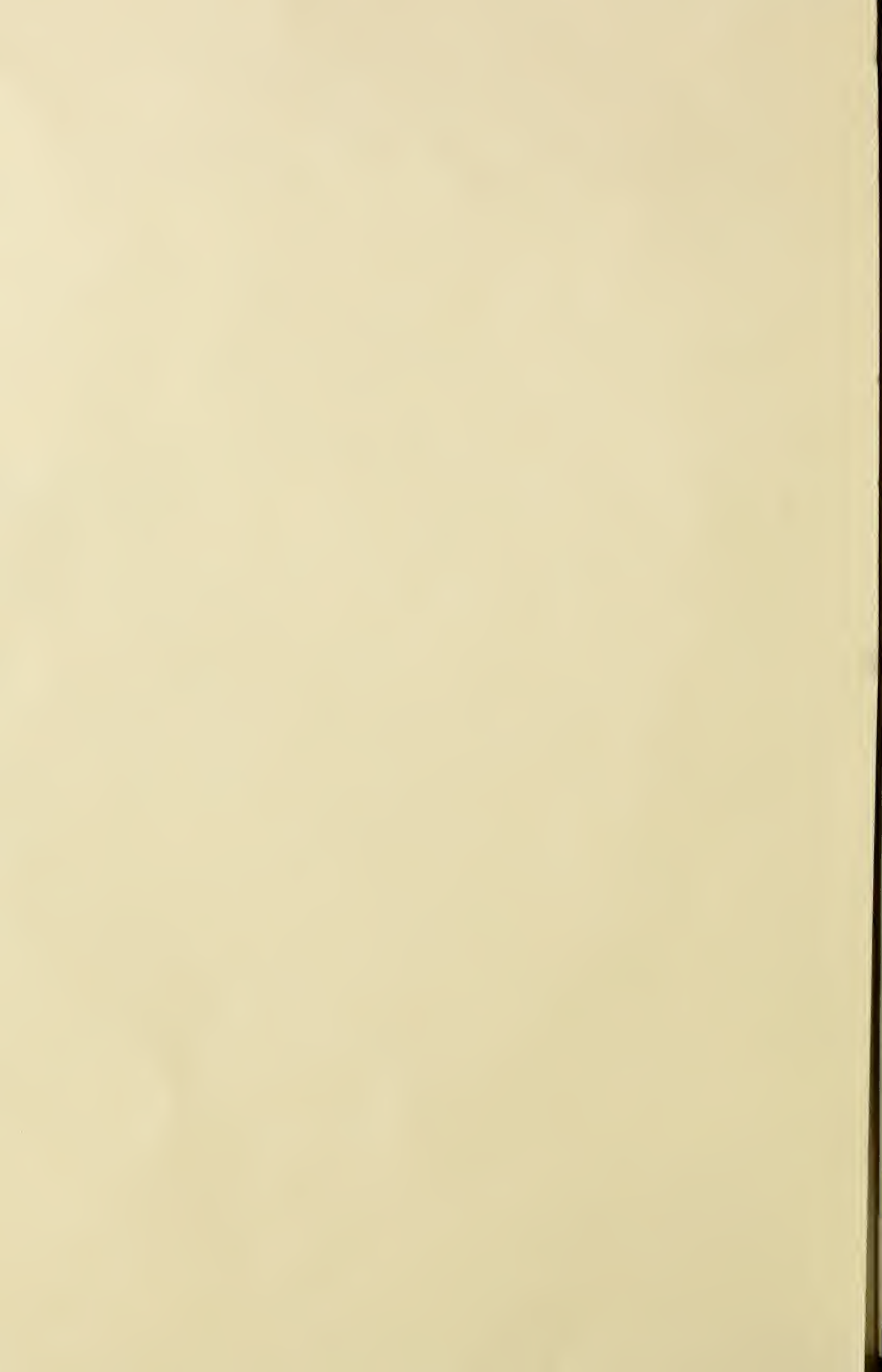


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THE MARYLAND FARMER:

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture, and Rural Economy.

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No. II.

Our London Letter.

(Regular Correspondence.)

LONDON, ENGLAND, Sept. 5th-81.

When every allowance has been made for the beneficial influence of the strong winds and bright sunshine, which have generally obtained during Friday, Saturday and Sunday, it would be ignoring patent facts, and the evidence which has been forthcoming from all parts of the country, to regard the past week as having brought other than general disaster and ruin to the British harvest of 1881. A series of intermittent storms which commenced on Monday, culminated on Thursday in a thunder-storm, which included in its area nearly the whole of the United Kingdom, during which the rain fall was excessive. To form an adequate estimate of the damage done by this down-pour, it will be necessary to bear in mind that it fell on crops which have been outstanding in sheaf for a considerable length of time, during which they have been repeatedly wetted and partially dried and on uncut grain which is being literally eaten up by mildew. It is difficult to assess the relative amount of damage as between crops standing in sheaf and those which have not yet been cut even, with advices daily to hand from all parts of the Kingdom. In the former category are included the bulk of the grain crops in the eastern, southern, south-eastern and mid-land counties of England; and in the latter, the whole remainder of the United Kingdom. The wheats have sprouted more or less in all the districts in which the grain crops are outstanding in some cases to an almost unprecedented degree; whilst

the barleys, which are generally too short in the straw to admit of tying, have received damage varying from a state of rottenness to mere discoloration, which will materially affect the malting properties and market value of the crop.

In districts in which floods have occurred, the details of which are not yet fully to hand—the harvest disaster must necessarily be complete. The drying wind which obtained on Friday and Saturday induced many farmers to put together a considerable acreage of wheat in condition which varied from bad to indifferent, and the result will be known at a future day. It is to be feared that unthatched ricks, everywhere, have suffered material damage from the downpour of Thursday. This position of the harvest has materially affected the grain trade. On Friday, in London, the sun was shining and that checked the upward tendency. If Thursday's weather had occurred on Friday, there would certainly have been an advance in the price of wheat amounting to several shillings per qr., but the high winds and the bright sunshine reduced the upward movements to 24 cts. over Wednesday's rates, or 48 cts. good, over those of Monday last. In many important provincial exchanges the advance during the week has been fully a shilling beyond that obtained for native wheat in London.

Continental grain markets are, as a rule, hardening from the disappointing nature of the yield, and in the late districts the rains have deteriorated the condition of the wheats. In Holland and Northern Germany, nearly the whole of the wheat crop is still in the fields. Barleys are variable in France and Germany, and speculative prices are being paid in Saale and other barley growing districts of Germany; brewers, however, do not yet respond.

Farm Work for November.

Gather all rough materials about the farm, marsh mud, tussocks, leaves from the woods, &c., and spread it over the barnyard to be composted with the manure and as absorbents of the liquids of the barnyard. Make, if possible, large compost heaps in convenient places, using in the compost these raw materials, with coarse manure from the stables, plaster, refuse salt and water occasionally, to keep it moist and prevent fire-fanging.

Fences, Gates and Ditches.

Repair the fences and gates. Do away with all bars—clean out open ditches and see that the blind ditches are acting well. Drain thoroughly all fields intended for crops next year, and see that the grain fields just sown, are properly drained and have enough water furrows to carry off all surplus water after heavy rains.

Fire Wood.

Provide a good supply of dry fire-wood, by hauling it up and putting it under a rough shed.

Farm Implements.

Let all these be gathered together, overlooked, put in complete order, well cleaned, oiled, given a coat of paint and put under cover, where they will keep dry and be ready for use next year, at a moment's notice.

Shelter for Stock.

This month, if possible, put the shelters and sheds for all stock in proper order and build others. They can be made of plank and timber or posts set in the ground, with poles and pine or cedar brush, or straw and corn stalks, or simply with corn fodder. All stock require dry, warm shelter in cold or wet weather. See that they are well littered with straw or leaves, so as to furnish the stock with clean, dry beds at all times. Frequently renew these beds, not removing the former, but adding layers as often as required, and next spring each shelter will furnish a valuable supply of manure, while the condition of the stock will show how much the warmth has contributed to supply any scarcity of food.

Ploughing Stiff Clays.

All stiff clays should be ploughed, if not too wet at the time, during the fall months and suffered to lie in rough fallow throughout the winter. The heavy soil is thus disintegrated and mellowed by the frost, and their fertilizing constituents rendered soluble for the use of the spring crops. But no clays should be ploughed whilst they are wet or they will clod badly, and will be correspondingly injured, nor should light, sandy soils be ploughed during the winter at all.

Fattening Hogs.

Warm and comfortable pens, well bedded, and a good supply of charcoal are quite as essential as an abundance of food in promoting the ready fattening of hogs wherever economy is consulted. Experience has repeatedly demonstrated the fact that all kinds of stock when warmly housed, will fatten upon one-half the quantity that is required by cattle exposed to the rigors of the winter. The process of fattening hogs should be commenced early. They should be put into their pens as soon as the supply of mast begins to fail, and from that time, they should be supplied, though without waste, with all the food they can eat. It is the best plan to furnish them with small quantities of food often and at regular hours, than to supply them with large quantities at once. As hog manure is exceedingly rich in nitrogen and the phosphates, every good farmer will endeavor to secure as large a quantity as he can by keeping the pens well bedded.

The food of fattening hogs should often be varied. Most frequently give them a feed of corn and cob meal, moistened well, to which add a little charcoal and salt, and sometimes a small quantity of flour of sulphur, say a quarter of a pound to five bushels of corn and cob meal, well mixed. Throw to them, now and then, a supply of rotten wood. Cleanliness is important for their health and promotes both growth and the taking on of fat. We think *one-fourth* of the cost of the production of pork can be saved by *feeding ground corn and cob meal* over dry, unground corn. Get on all the fat possible during the mild weather. Hogs take on flesh slowly in cold weather. There is always great waste in fattening hogs in the Southern and Middle States, by inattention to some small matters, such as clean sleeping places, pure water, variety of food, neglect to furnish charcoal or rotten wood, overcrowding in pens, &c. The idea is too prevalent that all that is necessary is to make a pen, put up fifty or more swine, little and big, no shelter, one big trough for water—never clean it out and fill with muddy branch water or other impure water, put in a load of straw or corn fodder once a week, and give them as much corn on the ear as they can eat, or as a rule "let the corn lay by them." This wasteful, senseless practice is yet too much the usual practice with farmers who declaim against "Book-farming." By this course they may get 5 lbs. gain of pork for each bushel of corn, but by a judicious course they would get 15 lbs. Let any farmer try it by careful experiment, using the scales all the time. Weight tells, and he will not be long in finding

out that his pork costs him dearly if made under the old regime.

Storing Roots:

All roots that yet remain in the ground should now be taken up carefully, stored away and well protected against frost.

Young Cattle.

It will not do to expose young cattle to the inclemencies of the weather, or to give them only rough provender. Once stunted they never thrive so well afterwards. They should be warmly housed and regularly though not profusely fed, and their food should be of good quality. Turn them out in bright moderate weather for exercise, and see that they have free access to pure water.

Working Animals.

It is of equal importance that working animals should receive generous treatment. They should be well fed three times a day, should have salt at least twice a week, and besides, the usual supply of good hay or other provender cut up and mixed with corn ground with the cob, should have occasional messes of roots.

Garden Work for November.

But little is to be done this month in the garden, beyond cleaning up and setting in order for winter. The other work we here suggest.

Cabbages.—Take these up and store away. Our method is to open a trench four feet wide and six inches deep. In this set close the cabbage heads down and the roots up, after being pulled and left to dry and wilt for a day, cover the whole over with earth six inches, and enough on the top to conceal the roots. As the coldness of the weather increases add more earth, and if very cold, cover the heap with straw, so as to keep the cabbage from freezing, but be sure and not to have the same so warm as to cause it to rot, —better be kept too cool than too warm.

Lettuce Plants—In frames, should have moisture, and all the air possible, when not too cold.

Sea Kale and Rhubarb—Seeds of these may yet be sown in the early part of the month, on rich, well prepared ground.

Cauliflower and Broccoli—Break down the leaves of these over the flower beds to protect them.

Endives and Celery.—Continue to blanch the former and earth up the latter.

Asparagus Beds—If these have not been cleaned and dressed for the winter, do so without delay.

Spinach.—Keep the bed free from weeds and the earth stirred. See that the plants are thinned to 4 or 6 inches apart in the drills.

Gooseberries, Currants, etc—Cuttings of these may be set out this month.

Raspberries and Blackberries.—May be set out this month at any time before hard freezing. We planted some last year just before a hard freeze, and all lived, we cut off the tops to 4 inches and did not mulch or cover them, and some bore fruit this year.

Turnips, Beets and Carrots.—Take these up in a dry time, leave a few hours to dry off and store in pits a foot deep, 3 or 4 feet wide, and say 6 to 20 feet long. Put a little straw or dry leaves at the bottom, place the roots so as to build up a mound two feet high, in the shape of a cone or of a steep roof. Cover with straw and put over that, earth six inches deep and packed smooth and well with the back of a hoe or spade. Dig a small trench or ditch around the heaps or trenches to carry off all surface water.

Trenching Stiff Clay Beds—All stiff beds in the garden should be trenched 18 or 24 inches deep, and a supply of rich stable manure worked in and left in the rough, so that frosts may easily penetrate and disintegrate deeply the whole soil during winter.

English Sparrows.

A Great Nuisance.

We agree fully with what our whilom correspondent, A. P. S., of Rock Hall, Md., says about the English sparrow. We cannot see anything in this feathered foreigner that is commendable—it is a noisy, disagreeable, destructive and pugnacious bird, that drives away all our old favorites that so long have enlivened households by their domesticity and sweet little songs. A. P. S. writes to the *Country Gentleman*, thus:—

“I have always been a warm friend of birds, from the savage eagle to the little humming bird; and for the past two seasons have tried to become reconciled to the English sparrow. Last year, a few made their appearance, and although closely watched, I was not much disposed to find fault with them, but promised to keep an eye on them, dreading their attacks on our cheerful, useful, friendly wrens and other

birds who have their homes and rear their young in the many quarters provided for them around the house, and whose noisy, but cheerful songs are enjoyed by the occupants of larger quarters, for it is always pleasant to hear the courting notes of the male in his love talk to his companion.

Regarding these sparrows, I have not been able to detect a single redeeming quality; on the contrary, every objectionable feature to be found in any of the feathered tribe can be seen in them. They are destructive to young fruit blossoms, attack the wheat in its early formation and stick by it whenever there is a chance to do damage to it. They will pick a few of the milky grains out, and their restless nature prompts them to leave for other heads, which, by plucking a few grains they seriously injure. Now they are serving the corn in the same way, as well as the young cabbage. They have driven the martins (*Hirundo Purpurea*) entirely from their long cherished home, and the little white bellied swallow (*Hirundo viridis*) has not been seen this season, the sparrows having possession of their boxes when they arrived, and the male bird stands sentinel to dart at any bird that dares to enter the old home. They accumulate rapidly, breeding three or four times during the season. They are desperate fighters among themselves and fight for all the wives they can get. If something is not done for their extermination they will surely prove one of the most obnoxious enemies the farmer will have to contend with before long, as they are fast extending over the country. Last year I only had a few, and they seemed to live in harmony with the other house birds; but now they are here by the thousand and are in every mischief. I would advise every farmer to do what I intend to do myself—destroy every one, if possible. I have offered a reward for every head, and as they go in flocks in the fall, the boys are making big calculations.”

There is now a substance which is both professionally and popularly indorsed and concerning which, Mr. J. B. Ferschweiler, Butteville, Oregon, writes: I have often read of the many cures effected by St. Jacobs Oil and was persuaded to try the remedy myself. I was a sufferer from rheumatism and experienced great pains, my leg being so swollen that I could not move it. I procured St. Jacobs Oil, used it freely and was cured.—*Freeport, (Iw.) Bulletin*

Soil Tests.

The need of experiments to test the quality and capability of the soil is now conceded by every thinking practical farmer. The different crops have varied wants, and their adaptation is different. Some crops assimilate their food more readily than others; in others, the time of growing to maturity is short, and they must have what food they need within that time, while those of longer and slower growth do not require that food so rapidly. These are all important points, and the following plan to test the wants of the crop and the capability of the soil, is suggested:

Take an acre of land and lay it out in ten parallel strips, which would be about 200 feet long and 20 feet wide, with the fertilizer on each strip different, and one or more without any, for the purpose of comparison. Across these strips sow or plant, in widths of fifteen feet, more or less, as to the number of crops desired to be tried. If they are twenty feet wide, there will be one hundred squares, and the opportunity of trying ten different conditions of fertilizer, with scarcely any more labor than trying one; this will show the diversity in the wants of various crops, and that what is good for one is not adapted for another. It would be well to have the first row in grass, the second in clover, the third and fourth in grains, the fifth in flax; this leaves five rows for the various hoed crops, corn, potatoes, cotton, tobacco, beans and others which will be tried as location, climate and temperature differ. It will, of course, be understood that spaces must be kept between the different squares, that the roots do not run into forbidden grounds, which would impair the reliability of the test. It is reasonable to suppose that every Agricultural College would be induced to make these practical tests, and that in every State a law should be passed making it imperative on the State and County agricultural societies, that receive pecuniary help from the State to make these tests.

If these experiments were tried in every county in the State, then tabulated, we would have results from different soils, temperature and rainfall, which would form a rational foundation on which our farmers could build. It cannot be denied that this desired practical information of such importance to the farmer can be gained at

trifling expense compared with its actual value; and when obtained in one State and its advantages become known, there is no question but what all the States would fall into line, and thus contribute to the advancement of the cause of agriculture, the foundation of our growth and prosperity.—ANDREW H. WARD, Bridgewater, Mass.

What the South could Save!

"The cotton States consume 42,252,244 bushels more wheat than they raise, and pay to the North for wheat, corn, and oats \$150,000,000 annually."

The above from a western paper, shows that we pay to the North every year as much money for corn, oats, hay, wheat, etc., as is realized from over 5,000,000 bales of cotton. Such figures are startling and a sad commentary on our present system of farming. One hundred and fifty million dollars spent at the North which might be kept at home, think of it—the mighty sum. Cut it out and paste it in your almanac. So when you look for the changes of the moon you can read it.—*The Comet, Miss.*

Tobacco Statistics.

A friend in Charles county desires us to inform him, "why it is that tobacco has not advanced in price commensurate with the increased demand for it both in America and Europe, while there has been much less of the weed produced of late years in this country than formerly?" Our friend is grossly mistaken; he seems to look only to the southern counties of this State as to its decreased production. In 1821, of tobacco there was exported \$5,798,045; and in 1881, \$20,878,884, just about four times as much exported in 1881 as was exported in 1821, sixty years ago. Now if we allow for the great increase in the use of tobacco at home for the last 60 years, owing to the increase in population and the continual increase in the habitual use of tobacco, it can be readily seen that the production of this article of luxury has increased in the United States to a greater extent than that

of grain, in due proportion to an article of necessity and one luxury.

Census bulletin No. 263, gives the following information in regard to the tobacco crop. The total average in tobacco in the United States 638,843 acres, with a total production of 472,661,159 pounds. Kentucky is the largest tobacco producing State, and next in order the following:—Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, North Carolina and Maryland. The figures for Maryland are as follows:

| Counties. | Acres. | Pounds. |
|----------------------|--------|------------|
| Alleghany..... | 2 | 1,115 |
| Anne Arundel..... | 6,271 | 4,441,140 |
| Baltimore..... | 12 | 9,601 |
| Calvert..... | 6,848 | 3,886,845 |
| Caroline..... | 1 | 1,422 |
| Carroll..... | 162 | 137,171 |
| Cecil..... | 43 | 59,036 |
| Charles..... | 7,913 | 5,145,509 |
| Frederick..... | 429 | 370,340 |
| Garrett..... | 4 | 1,927 |
| Harford..... | 52 | 68,085 |
| Howard..... | 208 | 138,930 |
| Montgomery..... | 1,053 | 806,036 |
| Prince George's..... | 9,637 | 6,575,246 |
| Saint Mary's..... | 5,528 | 4,429,316 |
| Somerset..... | 2 | 1,355 |
| Washington..... | 5 | 7,050 |
| Wicomico..... | 3 | 1,388 |
| Worcester..... | 1 | 265 |
| Total..... | 38,174 | 26,082,174 |

Fodder Corn and Corn Fodder.

James Burnham, dairy farmer near N. Y., as reported by the "*Husbandman*," keeps twenty cows and sells their milk in the city. Last year he planted ten acres of corn in hills about a foot apart in the row—the space between rows about three feet nine inches. Besides this, four acres were planted in the same way, except that the spaces between hills one way were divided and hills placed half way, making the planting just twice as thick as for an ordinary corn crop. In addition to all this, he had ten acres of corn planted in the ordinary checks, about three feet nine inches between hills. His meadow measured just seven acres, and the crop was light. This provision was for twenty cows and three horses steadily kept, but changes in the dairy often placed a great number of cows on the farm. Now for feeding. Let it be understood, first, that

the hay cut was no more than sufficient to supply the horses through winter. The green corn stalks and ears Mr. Burnham began feeding the first day of August, for the drouth had begun to shorten pasturage, and at any risk he was determined to keep up milk production. From that day all through autumn, the cows had each day one full feed of corn, and after a short supply of pumpkins was gone, two feeds. Then when winter came they were fed all they would eat—corn and ears—clean through to grass along in May, and the corn was not all used up. As to the hay there is left a considerable portion of the crop, perhaps more than a quarter of all stored last year.

The way Mr. Burnham saved his corn fodder is worthy of note. He cut the corn when the ears were fairly beginning to glaze, and set up in shocks exactly as if he had intended to husk the crop. After curing suitably in the field the bound stalks in convenient bundles for handling and drew to the barn where a bay about 38 feet long and 22 feet wide made storage room. In this he placed a layer of bundles—stalks and un-husk ears—and then a layer of wheat straw a foot or more thick, these layers alternated up to the roof except that oat straw was used after the other was exhausted. Out of this big mow came all the fodder used by cows and horses, except occasionally a handful of hay to the latter, or the cows a little off their feed. Toward spring it became necessary to strip off the largest ears to avoid waste and later, when it was thought that good hay would be proper preparation for the cows to go to grass, the course fodder was withheld entirely, and in three days was a decrease of thirty one quarts in the milk yield, and the cows were turned to grass to restore the loss.

Fruit Dryers and "Evaporators."

Those who have hot-bed sashes can dry fruit by the heat of the sun in a manner vastly superior to the ordinary method. A box should be made like a hot bed frame, but with a bottom, and it should have legs to raise it a few inches from the grounds. The sashes should fit sufficiently close to keep out the dust and insects. In the front of the box, at the bottom, make openings under the middle of each sash, and at the rear, at the top make similar openings, we

do not recollect the exact size we used, but probably 12 inches long by three wide will answer. These openings should be covered with wire cloth, though in its absence mosquito netting or a similar stuff will answer. The fruit, or other article to be dried, should be upon trays or covered with some coarse fabric, and raised a few inches from the bottom of the box. The sash being so placed as to catch the full heat of the sun, the drying will go on in a surprisingly rapid manner. The air passing in at the lower openings will become quickly heated and going out at the upper openings a current will be established, carrying off the moisture from the fruit etc., in the most satisfactory manner. The product will not be so white as when dried by artificial heat, but for home use just as good, and it will be free from dust and the soiling by insects. We dried the finest sweet corn imaginable with a contrivance like this, and have no doubt of its efficacy in drying fruit.—*American Agriculturist for October.*

Ensilage Not All-Sufficient.

There seems to be an impression in the minds of some farmers that the feeding of ensilage alone would sustain cattle, and especially milch cows, in a perfect, healthy condition. Ensilage can take the place of the coarse fodder required by cattle, such as hay, straw, etc., serving the same purpose, namely, that of properly distending the bowels; but an addition of some other fodder, rich in flesh-forming material, for instance, cotton seed meal, oil cake etc., is absolutely required to make it a perfect food since, the proportion between the flesh producing and heat producing ingredients in ensilage is usually as one of the former to at least ten of the latter; while in a good healthy fodder for milch cows, the flesh forming material should be about as one of the flesh-forming to five of the heat producing ingredients. Feeding ensilage alone, consequently, must produce a weakening of the entire system. Moreover experiments made in Germany prove the fact that for a perfect digestion of starch a certain quantity of flesh-forming material is indispensable.—*Prof. Engelhardt in Husbandman,*

OUR FARMERS' OLIO.

Mr. Stary, Nottingham, England, in a series of "useful hints for the proper preservation of a carriage," says:

"A carriage should be kept in an airy, dry coach house, with a moderate amount of light, otherwise the colors will be destroyed. There should be no communication between the stables and the coach house. The manure or heap pit should also be kept as far away as possible. Ammonia cracks varnish and fades the colors both of painting and lining. A carriage should never, under any circumstances, be put away dirty. In washing a carriage keep out of the sun and have the lever end of the "setts" covered with leather. Use plenty of water, which apply where practicable, with a hose or syringe, taking care that the water is not driven into the body to the injury of the lining. When forced water is not attainable, use for the body a large, soft sponge. This, when saturated, squeeze over the panels, and by the flow down of the water, the dirt will soften and harmlessly run off, then finish with a soft, chamois leather and oil silk handkerchief. The same remarks apply to the underwork and wheels, except that when the mud is well soaked, a soft mop, free from any hard substance in the head may be used. Never use a "spoke brush," which, in conjunction with the grit from the road, acts like sand paper on the varnish, scratching it, and of course effectually removing all gloss. Never allow water to dry itself on the carriage as it invariably leaves stains. Be careful to grease the bearings of the fore-carriage so as to allow it to turn freely. Examine a carriage occasionally and whenever a bolt or a slip appears to be getting loose, tighten it up with a wrench, and always have little repairs done at once. Never draw out or back a carriage into a coach house, with the horses attached, as more accidents occur from this than from any other cause. Headed carriages should never stand with the head down, and aprons of every kind should be frequently unfolded or they will soon spoil."

Frank O. Herring, Esq., of the Champion Safe Works 251 and 252 Broadway, New York, reports the use of St. Jacobs Oil for a stiffness and soreness of the shoulder, with most pleasant and efficacious effects.—*Louisville Home and Farm.*

Flesh and Fat Producers.

The *American Agriculturist* makes up from the published analyses of the most eminent agricultural chemists, the following table, exhibiting the relative nutritive value of different feeds. It corresponds strictly with the experience of many noted English feeders, and is probably the most trustworthy information yet collected in so compact a form:

| | Flesh. | Fat. |
|------------------------------------|--------|------|
| Turnips..... | 1 | 5 |
| Rutabagas..... | 1 | 7 |
| Carrots..... | 1 | 7 |
| Mangolds and Kohlrabi..... | 2 | 8 |
| Straw..... | 3 | 16 |
| Potatoes..... | 2 | 17 |
| Brewers Grain..... | 5½ | 18 |
| Wheat and Barley..... | 12 | 68 |
| Dried Brewers' Grain..... | 16 | 70 |
| Earth Nut Cake..... | 20 | 40 |
| Beans, (English field)..... | 22 | 46 |
| Linseed..... | 23 | 92 |
| Rice Meal..... | 61 | 77 |
| Locust Beans..... | 7 | 72 |
| Hay (early cut)..... | 8 | 50 |
| Millet (seed)..... | 8 | 76 |
| Buckwheat..... | 9 | 60 |
| Malt..... | 9 | 76 |
| Rye..... | 11 | 72 |
| Oats..... | 12 | 63 |
| Corn..... | 12 | 63 |
| Palm Nut Meal..... | 18 | 98 |
| Tares (seed)..... | 27½ | 57 |
| Linseed Cake..... | 28 | 56 |
| Bran and coarse mill stuff..... | 31 | 54 |
| Rape Cake..... | 31 | 53 |
| Decorticated Earth Nut Cake..... | 39 | 45 |
| Decorticated Cotton Seed Cake..... | 41 | 77 |

It will be seen from the above that cotton seed meal has no superior as a flesh former, and that for fattening it is better than any other article of stock feed. In a very short time it has established itself, both in this country and in Europe, as the food for beef cattle and for dairy purposes.

How to detect Adulteration in Ground Coffee.

Take a little of the coffee and press it between the fingers, or give it a squeeze in the paper in which it is bought; if genuine, it will *not* form a coherent mass, as coffee grains are hard and do not readily adhere to each other; but, if the grains stick to each other and form a sort of "cake," we may be pretty sure of adulteration in the shape of chicory, for the grains of chicory are softer and more open, and adhere without difficulty when squeezed. Again, if we

place a few grains in a saucer and moisten them with a little cold water, chicory will very quickly become soft like bread crumbs, while coffee will take a long time to soften. A third test: Take a wineglass or a tumbler full of water, and gently drop a pinch of the ground coffee on the surface of the water, without stirring or agitation; genuine coffee will float for some time, while chicory or any other soft root will soon sink; and chicory or caramel will cause a yellowish or browning color to diffuse rapidly through the water, while pure coffee will give no sensible tint under such circumstances for a considerable length of time.—
Food and Health.

Recipe to keep off Cabbage Worms.

Water the cabbage heads with a weak brine and you will keep off cabbage worms. The young insect is readily destroyed by salt and water. This remedy is an advantage to the cabbage plant, as it stimulates growth.

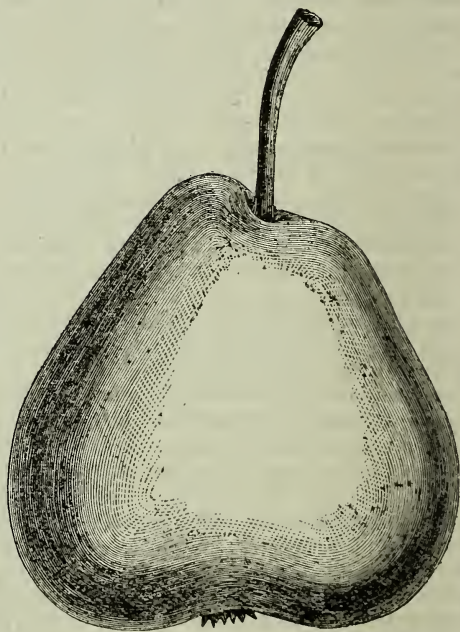
The Root of the Cotton Crop.

The value of the cotton plant, (*Gossypium Herbaceum*) has been increased by the discovery that the bark of the roots yield a promising dye-stuff. Mr. W. C. Staehl reports that when the bark of cotton root is exhausted by alcohol of the specific gravity of 0.84, a dark reddish-brown liquid is obtained, which, when distilled to recover the spirit, leaves a resinous matter which amounts to 8 per cent. of the original weight of the bark. The new product thus obtained appears black and shining, but when pulverized takes the color of cochineal. It dissolves in 14 parts of alcohol, 15 parts of chloroform, and 122 parts of benzol. It dissolves also in caustic alkalies and is precipitated from these solutions by acid. Hydrate of potash colors green. Sulphuric acid dissolves it with a red-brown color.

THE drought has seriously affected the cucumber crop. The cultivation of cucumbers for pickling purposes is extensively carried on in New York, New Jersey and other States. Last year New York furnished 200,000,000, of which 120,000,000 were raised in Westchester county. This year the supply will not be more than half as large, and the market price, which in ordinary years is \$1 per thousand, is now \$2.20. The scarcity of cucumbers will of course increase the price of pickles.

HORTICULTURAL.

As this month is one suitable to setting out fruit and ornamental trees in this section, we have obtained from those celebrated and reliable nurserymen, Messrs. Ellwanger & Barry, of Rochester, N. Y., cuts of two superior pears which we give below with proper description of them, and hope some of our readers will try them, as we believe they will suit the climate and soil of the Middle States, and we know them to be very superior fruit. The pear is constantly on the increase in quantity and popularity as a fruit in the market. Hence new varieties are eagerly sought after. Cultivators should endeavor to plant such varieties as are likely to suit their localities.



PETITE MARGUERITE.

Medium size, skin greenish yellow, with brownish red cheeks and covered with greenish dots. Flesh fine, melting, juicy, vinous and of first quality. Tree, a vigorous, upright grower, and an early and abundant bearer. Succeeds admirably as a standard or dwarf. The finest pear of its season and worthy of special attention. Ripens latter part of August.

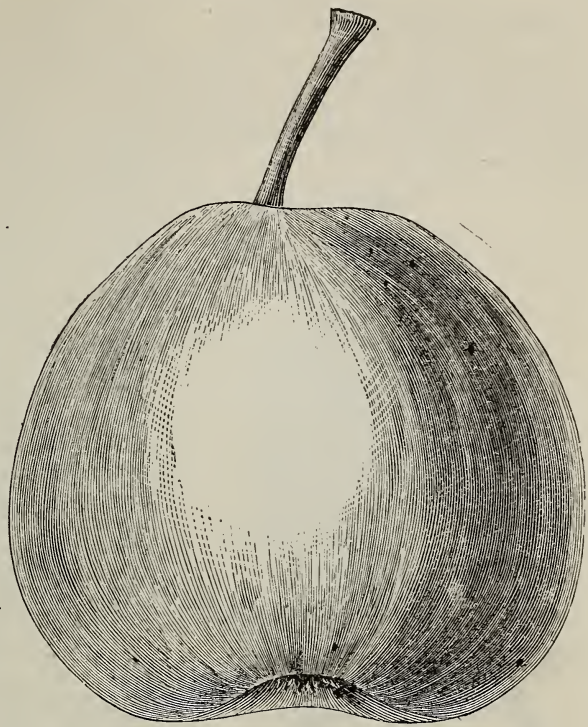
Frederick Clapp Pear.

The Hon. Marshall P. Wilder thus describes the Frederick Clapp Pear:

"Form generally obovate but somewhat variable; size above medium; skin thin, smooth and fair, clear lemon yellow; flesh fine grained, very juicy and melting, flavor sprightly, acidulous, rich and aromatic; season October 15th to November 1st, remaining sound at core to the last; quality very good to best, and will be highly esteemed by those who like acidulous pears. It has been exhibited for many years by the originators, Messrs. F. & L. Clapp, Dorchester, Mass. Of this pear the committee of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society have reported favorably for years. Of its quality they state in 1873; 'It was pronounced decidedly superior to the Beurre Superfin, and is regarded by all who have seen it, as the highest bred and most refined of all the many seedlings shown by Messrs. Clapp.' It is probably a cross between Beurre Superfin and Urbaniste, the tree resembling in habit the latter variety, and may safely be commended as worthy of trial by all cultivators of the pear."

OKRA.

The more we know of this garden vegetable the more we are convinced that it has no equal that grows from the soil, taking everything into consideration. No garden vegetable grows with so little care as okra, and none yields such an abundance of nutritious food. It comes into bearing early in the season, and from that day on till frost, under proper treatment, it is constantly fruiting, regardless of the character of the weather as to wet or dry. When all other vegetables have disappeared from



the garden on account of drought, okra is still there, giving us our daily supply of food for the table as usual.

The cultivation of okra is exceedingly simple. It is a good deal like the cultivation of cotton, of which plant it is a near relative, botanically. Once in bearing, all necessary is to see to it that no pods are allowed to mature and dry up, for this would at once stop its bearing. All pods must be removed at the proper size for cooking, whether wanted for the table or not.

The taste for okra may be an acquired one to some extent, especially on the part of people who have not been raised in the South, though we think most people would at once take to it with a fair degree of relish in all cases where it has been properly prepared. There are various ways of cooking it, one of the most common being to boil it in salt and water until tender, and then drop it into hot grease and fry it a few minutes. This plan leaves it clear of any mucillagenous appearance on the surface, giving it as inviting an exhibit as a dish of well-cooked snap beans.—*Weekly Register*.

Deutzia, "Pride of Rochester."

The Deutzias are beautiful, hardy plants for the border or flower bed, and we give a picture of a new variety offered by Messrs. Ellwanger & Barry.



ONE-THIRD NATURAL SIZE.

A new variety raised from *Deutzia crenata flore pleno*, and producing large double white flowers; the back of the petals being slightly tinged with rose. It excels all of the older sorts in size of flower, length of panicle, profuseness of bloom and vigorous habit. We regard it as a charming acquisition.

Borders of Shrubs.

We give the following extract from the admirable Essay on Ornamental Planting, read before the American Association of Nurserymen, at Dayton, Ohio, in June last, by Wm. C. Barry, Esq., of Mount Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.:

Many gardens are too much exposed. It has recently become fashionable to remove fences, and grounds thus opened might as well be public property. There is no seclusion or privacy, and every move-

ment about the garden can be observed. One of the charms of a garden is the air of seclusion which should prevail there. To secure that privacy which all who are fond of gardening certainly desire, we would suggest the planting of a border inside the fence. This border can be varied in depth, according to the size of the garden. It should be a little higher than the lawn, and the outer line should consist of graceful curves. In this border can be planted a variety of shrubs, dwarf conifers, hardy plants, etc., but no trees. The shrubs and conifers should be planted irregularly, from three to four feet apart—the taller ones nearest the fence and the dwarf subjects near the margin. For a border six feet in depth I would suggest two rows of shrubs, the first consisting of the larger growing ones, like Weigela, Deutzia, Forsythia, Japan Quince, Viburnum, Cornus Variegated, Red Dogwood, Tartarian Honeysuckle, Lance-leaved Spiraea, Syringa, Althaea, Calycanthus, Plum-leaved Spiraea, Barberry, Dwarf Spruce, Dwarf Pine and Juniper.

For the second row, *Deutzia gracilis*, Mezeron Pink, Dwarf and Golden-leaved Syringa, Tree Pæonies, Dwarf Double Flowering Almond, *Prunus triloba*, Dwarf Weigela, Fortune's Dwarf White Spiraea, Plumed Hydrangea, Spiraea Thunbergi, Juniper Squamata and Tamarisk-leaved Juniper. The outer edge can be formed of Funkias, Dwarf Phlox, Japan Spiraea, Evergreen Candy-tuft, Perennial Flax, Forget-me-not, Lungwort, Soapwort and Sea Pink, Sweet Violets.

Between the shrubs, near the front may be planted lilies, tall phlox, and occasionally a hollyhock.

All the shrubs and plants which I have named are perfectly hardy, and if properly pruned can be kept of moderate size and good form. This selection will furnish a constant succession of bloom, from early spring till late in the Autumn.

The border should be lightly forked every autumn, and all the plants contained in it will be much benefitted thereby.

In small gardens this border may be omitted altogether, and those who desire their gardens more exposed can, instead of a fence, plant a few shrubs irregularly—allowing the grass to grow quite closely around them. When fences have been removed along an entire street or avenue,

the lines of each lot may be marked by planting shrubs in this way, relieving the lawn of that nakedness which would otherwise prevail.

Shrubs grown in a cultivated border thrive much better than they do grown in grass and the border is therefore preferable.

Borders like the one above referred to may be formed at the sides of the garden, concealing division fences, if there be any. In these borders a great many varieties of shrubs may be employed, which, during the summer will afford an unlimited amount of pleasure. In the smallest gardens this mode of planting may be adopted, leaving the centre of the lawn open, without a single tree or shrub. Fine effects may be produced if neighbors would unite and form a double border instead of fences, planting the taller shrubs at the centre and the smaller ones at the outside, varying the sky outline by the introduction of a tree at intervals. In these side borders it is always well to employ shrubs that will not become too large, though any shrub, by proper pruning, can be kept small. This is the great advantage we have in dealing with shrubs, and when we find that they become so large as to conceal too much, they can easily be cut back. While a certain amount of privacy is very desirable, it is not pleasant to be too much confined, and in arranging these borders this point must be kept in view.

In medium sized places a few trees may be planted on the lawn. These should have a position at the side, rather than in front, as the view from the windows of the house should never be interfered with. Often only a single tree can be admitted—perhaps a handsome Cut-leaved Birch, Oak-leaved Mountain Ash, Purple Beech, Cut-leaved Beech, Youngs' Weeping Birch, or Weeping Cherry. All of these form beautiful specimens, and if a little care is bestowed upon them, each one, when it attains age, will be a picture in itself, always attractive and pleasing. Sometimes shade is required, in which case it is necessary to plant large growing trees within twenty feet of the house. I know of no tree which affords shade so quickly and withal is so handsome as the superb Elm. Groups of dwarf conifers may be introduced on lawns, such as the Dwarf Norway Spruce, compact Arbor Vitæ, Tamarisk-leaved Juniper, Dwarf Pine and Golden Yew. All of these

are hardy, and when planted three together irregularly, or in the shape of a triangle, from three to five feet apart, will in time look pretty. In small grounds it is difficult, without seeing them, to state where these groups should be located. The situation must be studied and nature imitated as far as possible.

Thus far I have not referred to flower beds in lawns. It is a common practice to make beds of geraniums in the centre of a lawn. If the style of gardening which I have suggested be carried out, a flower-bed of this kind would be out of place.

Geraniums and other bedding plants may be employed to advantage close to the house, and can be cultivated either in beds or in borders. A fine border of mixed plants, consisting of Tea Roses, Heliotrope, Double Feverfew with Coleus and Centaureas intermingled, presents a beautiful appearance and is very useful for cut flowers. Being near the house they are easily accessible, and do not detract from the beauty of a lawn. The edges of groups and borders of shrubs are beautified by the use of such plants. We cannot admire great masses of geraniums, but employed as they should be, they enliven a garden and may be considered indispensable.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Apple Culture.

The day for immense profits in any branch of industry is a thing of the past and those who expect it will surely be disappointed. Years ago, when peach culture was first fairly under way on the Peninsula, growers realized very large prices and corresponding profits. It was then more of a speculation, but now it has resolved itself into a regular branch of farm industry and while the profits are not immense, they are always satisfactory to those who conduct the business carefully and who have not invested all their capital and land in the single venture. Such persons, generally, are the ones who are badly crippled by a bad season. And so it is with apple culture: the profits from this fruit were, at first, much larger than at present, but growers should not complain of the average yearly profits, for the trees last very many years, will produce good crops regularly when properly managed, and bring fair prices when the fruit is marketed

in good order and is good, desirable kind of fruit.

One reason for the frequent failure to make apple culture pay as it should, can be found in the fact that very injudicious selections of varieties have been made, while far too many planters plant their orchards with too many varieties and not enough trees of any one variety to guarantee a fair marketing of any one variety. The desire to have a few of every sort, especially of the new, causes them to put out trees which are, in point of profit, entirely valueless, and they lose several years of valuable time before they are convinced of their error. It is always best to adhere to the old and tried varieties in setting out an orchard for market purposes, and planters cannot always depend on the nurserymen's catalogue for such information, owing to the simple fact that the same varieties do not do equally well in different localities. This is easily illustrated by the fact that varieties which are late fall or winter varieties, at the north, prove to be early fall or winter sorts a few hundred miles south, owing to the difference in climate, soil, &c. The Rhode Island Greenings, which is, when grown at the north, a late apple and a splendid keeper, bearing heavy crops, is rather a shy bearer at the south, and the keeping qualities are wanting. It is also a comparative early sort in the Southern States. In setting out a new orchard, it is well to bear in mind the few suggestions we have offered above. D. Z. E., Jr.

Planting Nuts as Tree Seed.

Nuts have for a long time in the past been deeply interesting to the boys of the people, those natural scavengers of our woods and fields, as well as to the earnest and laborious collector of natural history specimens for curiosity and study. They are, at the present time, constantly used as food by many people, and also by thousands of smaller dependent animals of our forest and fields, which subsist only on their carefully garnered store of well ripened nuts through our long and tedious winters. Some grow on exceedingly high and massive trees, and others on low and grovelling bushes, but on whatsoever they may be found growing, they all instinctively and naturally seek the covert the

soil affords them for protection and future usefulness.

The gathering of nuts for the purposes of seed should be done as early as possible after their maturity, as the least possible amount of drying by the influences of the atmosphere is only injurious to them as germs of future plants. The nut gatherer must be a close and discerning observer of nature, as in the treatment and preservation of nuts, some require treatment quite different from that of others. Some must be kept studiously dry and away from all outside moisture during the winter, while others must as studiously have a liberal supply. Again, some must be kept cold and exposed to frequent freezing and thawing to subdue their obstinate coverings, while others must as carefully be kept out of the reach of frost. And still again some may be advantageously planted in their seed beds in the fall of the year, while others will not endure this treatment with impunity.

But to particularize, it will perhaps be best for our purpose to make some special statements as briefly as possible relative to the management of each kind of nut for seed purposes.

English walnuts, *alias* Maderia Nuts, (*Juglans Regia*.) Nuts ripe early in October. Dash from the trees, gather and place in thin layers on the ground, and slightly cover with damp earth to keep moist and secure from the atmosphere during the winter. In early spring take out and plant in a seed bed, six inches by two feet, kept clean and protected from the severity of the sun. These nuts will not do as well in this country as our native variety, but in favorable spots the young trees will do tolerably well, although there are very few now found growing among us.

Black Walnuts (*Juglans Nigra*.) and Butternuts, (*Juglans cinerea*.) are native forest trees of fine proportions. Nuts ripe the latter part of October or the first part of November. After they are matured and loosened by the frost, or shaken down by the wind, they must be gathered as soon as possible and protected from the atmosphere, and planted early the following spring. Fall planting may also be adopted, but spring is greatly preferable as thereby solidifying of the ground and encrustation is mostly prevented.

Hickory Nuts, (*Carya alba* and *C. am-*

ara) are treated much like the preceding. The first is an exceedingly pleasant and nutritious food, and is greatly relished by both man and beast. The nuts are slow in germinating, and for a year or two make a slow and feeble growth, but with patience and care they eventually make fine trees.

Beech Nuts, (*Fagus Sylvatica*) are produced on native forest trees of noble growth. The nuts ripen in great abundance early in October, and readily fall by the influences of frost and wind. On low spreading trees they are dashed and gathered on sheets and preserved in dry sand, out of the way of frost, and sown very early in the spring, in well prepared seed beds in rows one foot apart. They readily germinate and form fine trees in a comparatively short time.

Chestnuts, (*Castanea Americana* and *C. Pumilla*) also Spanish Chestnuts, *C. Vesca*,) and the ornamental and beautiful lawn tree, the Buckeye or Horsechestnut, (*Aesculus hippocastanum*) are all the fruit of forest trees of deserved and growing popularity. The first three sorts are exceedingly relishable and are much used for food. Nuts ripe in October or November, and will readily fall by the action of the wind after frost. May be gathered and kept in dry sand out of the way of frost. They readily germinate in the spring and may be sown in rows one foot apart and six inches in the rows in a well prepared and liberally enriched bed. They may be transplanted in the nursery rows at one or two years of age and need some protection, as they are a little tender while in their infancy.

Hazel Nuts *alias* Filberts, (*Corylus Americana* and *L. Avellana*) are very popular and much esteemed for food, especially the English variety. The nuts may be gathered and stored away in dry sand, out of the reach of frost, and sown as early as possible in the spring. They will thus make fine plants to be taken up early the ensuing Fall. They are not much grown in this country.

Almonds, (*Amygdalus pumila* and *A. communis*,) Peach, (*Persica vulgaris*,) Nectarines, (*P. levis*,) Apricots, (*Prunus Armeniaca*,) and plums, (*P. Americana*,) are all related, both in nature and the treatment of their seed. The cherry, (*Cerasus Vulgaris*,) may also be included. In the

successful management of their seeds, the one essential point is studiously to prevent them from becoming thoroughly dried while exposed to atmospheric action.—*Canadian Horticulturist*.

A Comparison.

A farmer not more than ten miles from our grounds, turns up his nose at "fruit growing," and says "it's small business," and "hard on horses and wagons." Let us see about this "small business." We have about the same amount of land which this farmer possesses. He employs, on an average, through the entire year, one unmarried man and one girl, thus giving means for support to two persons, besides his own family. We employ, on an average, twelve men, heads of families, and as many more single men and women, for most eight months, in fact the average number that we give employment to, including pickers, from April 1st to December 1st, is thirty-five to forty persons, thus living means for support to at least 75 to 100 persons, besides our own family. He pays to help say \$400 per year. We pay, at least, \$6000 per year. He sells from his farm, say \$1500 to \$1800 yearly, gross. We, \$15,000 to \$18,000, (which include, our plant trade. He plows, harrows, sows reaps, draws into the barn, threshes, cleans and draws to market the product of an acre, say an average of fifteen bushels of wheat, for which he obtains gross, say \$20.00. We plow, harvest, plant, cultivate, hoe, gather and market from an acre an average of 50 bushels of fruit, for which we obtain gross, say \$150, saying nothing of the plants sold from same. He and his help work from 5 o'clock in the morning till dark; our help work from 7 A. M. to 6 P. M. He tugs, lifts and sweats. We don't. "Small business," isn't it, reader? —*Fruit Recorder*.

WOMEN that have been given up by their dearest friends, as beyond help, have been permanently cured by the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. It is a positive cure for all female complaints. Send to Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham, 233 Western Avenue, Lynn, Mass., for pamphlets.

Boy, what ails the horse? It needs Kendall's Spavin cure. See their advertisements,

Census Statistics of Maryland Grain Crops.

The statistics of Maryland's production of Indian corn, oats, rye and wheat in 1879, embodied in the census of 1880, indicate progress in agriculture in the State in the last decade. Her product of wheat in 1870 was 5,774,503 bushels, of corn 11,701,817 bushels, of oats 3,221,643 bushels, of buckwheat 77,867 bushels. The last-mentioned cereal was produced to the extent of 136,667 bushels in 1880. There were 6,197 bushels of barley grown in the State in the last census year, and 288,067 bushels of rye. The production of the four great grain crops in 1880 is indicated below by counties:

| COUNTIES. | INDIAN CORN. | | OATS. | |
|--------------------|--------------|------------|---------|-----------|
| | Acres | Bushels | Acres | Bushels |
| Alleghany - - - | 8,661 | 296,949 | 3,772 | 52,570 |
| Anne Arundel - - | 29,674 | 692,611 | 5,108 | 60,798 |
| Baltimore city - - | 5 | 200 | | |
| Baltimore co - - | 39,433 | 1,204,698 | 16,264 | 314,060 |
| Calvert - - - | 10,848 | 211,534 | 865 | 7,664 |
| Caroline - - - | 30,560 | 512,930 | 956 | 8,854 |
| Carroll - - - | 31,983 | 911,379 | 11,972 | 262,458 |
| Cecil - - - | 25,764 | 847,754 | 7,043 | 190,790 |
| Charles - - - | 25,922 | 412,146 | 2,423 | 18,230 |
| Dorchester - - - | 39,380 | 644,957 | 1,107 | 10,194 |
| Frederick - - - | 52,002 | 1,774,256 | 5,051 | 94,267 |
| Garrett - - - | 3,714 | 87,295 | 8,657 | 171,723 |
| Harford - - - | 26,506 | 1,015,762 | 10,189 | 232,339 |
| Howard - - - | 17,925 | 505,864 | 2,586 | 46,594 |
| Kent - - - | 29,937 | 800,005 | 1,388 | 19,503 |
| Montgomery - - - | 35,287 | 1,020,573 | 3,126 | 59,537 |
| Prince Georges - - | 28,897 | 656,888 | 2,798 | 37,395 |
| Queen Anne - - - | 38,653 | 934,831 | 1,614 | 22,944 |
| St. Mary's - - - | 23,388 | 360,756 | 1,356 | 11,387 |
| Somerset - - - | 22,594 | 389,896 | 3,776 | 49,152 |
| Talbot - - - | 26,053 | 691,919 | 794 | 12,257 |
| Washington - - - | 31,910 | 1,069,802 | 2,874 | 52,497 |
| Wicomico - - - | 41,214 | 447,519 | 1,963 | 10,641 |
| Worcester - - - | 44,588 | 568,009 | 6,045 | 49,018 |
| The State..... | 364,928 | 15,968,533 | 101,127 | 1,794,872 |

| COUNTIES. | RYE. | | WHEAT. | |
|--------------------|--------|---------|---------|-----------|
| | Acres | Bushels | Acres | Bushels |
| Alleghany - - - | 2,832 | 19,165 | 7,548 | 67,458 |
| Anne Arundel - - | 2,138 | 16,394 | 10,854 | 98,147 |
| Baltimore city - - | | | 10 | 350 |
| Baltimore co - - | 4,900 | 49,821 | 28,629 | 393,402 |
| Calvert - - - | 148 | 941 | 6,581 | 50,170 |
| Caroline - - - | 1,610 | 6,696 | 18,336 | 187,581 |
| Carroll - - - | 5,269 | 54,879 | 40,077 | 579,333 |
| Cecil - - - | 109 | 1,333 | 29,875 | 471,045 |
| Charles - - - | 284 | 1,339 | 15,042 | 108,133 |
| Dorchester - - - | 123 | 639 | 25,979 | 167,905 |
| Frederick - - - | 4,013 | 42,592 | 83,767 | 1,418,542 |
| Garrett - - - | 2,746 | 21,552 | 4,122 | 44,399 |
| Harford - - - | 418 | 3,694 | 25,143 | 420,850 |
| Howard - - - | 732 | 7,488 | 18,445 | 305,555 |
| Kent - - - | | | 37,581 | 556,947 |
| Montgomery - - - | 1,755 | 17,109 | 35,673 | 615,702 |
| Prince Georges - - | 2,522 | 17,041 | 14,181 | 129,946 |
| Queen Anne - - - | 638 | 4,468 | 41,223 | 558,353 |
| St. Mary's - - - | 64 | 241 | 18,554 | 155,677 |
| Somerset - - - | 51 | 230 | 8,082 | 83,812 |
| Talbot - - - | 15 | 104 | 33,129 | 468,316 |
| Washington - - - | 1,818 | 21,750 | 56,923 | 1,024,769 |
| Wicomico - - - | 74 | 349 | 3,720 | 27,034 |
| Worcester - - - | 36 | 242 | 5,821 | 41,438 |
| The State..... | 32,405 | 288,067 | 569,296 | 8,004,864 |

A New Fibre.

The Louisville *Courier Journal* gives the following description of a new material for use in bagging and rope manufacture which has been exhibited in that city: "This beautiful, strong clean fibre is produced from the plant known in this State as bear-grass, and further South as the Spanish dagger. The family of yucca contains about a dozen varieties, all stout, strong-leaved plants, and has been used in Kentucky time out of mind for hanging meat while curing in the smoke-houses. This family of plants is known as a beautiful and abundant bloomer; long, tough, pointed fibrous leaves. This plant is omnipresent everywhere in the South, south of forty degrees north latitude. This plant is another item in the long list of the untold resources of the South. Its fibre is as strong as hemp or jute, and almost as indestructible as iron except by the action of fire. Some of its advantages may be briefly summed up: The plant grows more than one hundred years; loses less than one-tenth in cleaning; it is the strongest coarse fibre in the world; will not shrink when it gets wet in rope; yields largely; requires no cultivation after the third year; is worth ten to fifteen cents per pound when cleaned, and grows spontaneously everywhere south of thirty-one degrees."

The *Granger Bulletin* says: "There is one very curious trick that can be played with flowers. In one-quarter of a minute a dahlia that is all purple can be changed, so that every petal shall be tipped yellow. This is simply done by burning some brimstone, and holding the flowers a few seconds in the fumes. The change is instantaneous; and where there was no fancy tipped dahlia, it astonished everybody who did not know it and saw the metamorphosis. Other flowers are subject to change by the fumes of brimstone, which discharges the color wherever it reaches. The experiment is easily tried by lighting a few lucifer matches."

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S Vegetable Compound is a remarkable remedy for all those painful complaints and weaknesses so common to our best female population. Send to Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham, 233 Western Avenue, Lynn, Mass., for pamphlets.

THE DAIRY.

For the Maryland Farmer.

The Co-operative Creamery.

NUMBER TWO.

The cans and setting tanks used at the farm are the individual property of the farmer, and should be ample enough to hold at least four milkings, so that uniformity in cream can be secured at different seasons. The Fairlamb cans hold six gallons of milk each, and cost \$2.50 per can. To get best results running water or ice will be required.

The *modus operandi* at the farm is as follows: The cows must be regularly milked and the milk strained at once into the cans. When the temperature is reduced to 60° the covers are put on, and by a simple fastening they are not again opened until the cream gatherer comes for the cream. Rapid raising of the cream is not a necessity, as the product is only gathered once per day, and a point about 60° secures best results. The cream collector comes each day, and his first work is to measure the depth of the cream by the means of a glass scale near the top of each can. This depth he accurately records, and then by means of a pointed dipper, deftly removes the cream from each can and transfers it to a large receiving can in his wagon, so suspended that jolting does not disturb it nor churn it upon the road, a fact which adds very largely to the butter value of the collected cream. Very early and very late in the season, the cream is only gathered every other day, but from May until November the best results come from every day collections, for the slight acidity needed is best regulated at the creamery.

At the creamery the cream is placed in a large vat to ripen, each collection being placed in a separate vat, and is at the time also weighed to correct any discrepancy that might have occurred in the measuring. So far as the churning, working, salting, etc., is related to perfect butter, this part is based upon the judgment of the Superintendent, and the demands of the market where sold. When made, the butter is packed and sent to market, on order sales, or consignment to some well known commission merchant. As soon as a month's sales are completed the auditor foots up the

gross proceeds; expenses, wages, interest on capital stock, etc. are deducted, the dividends are declared to the patrons and a settlement made.

For some of the advantages of this system we claim a paragraph. One inch of cream upon a Fairlamb can may be taken as a pound of butter the season through. This leaves the skim milk at the farm for feeding purposes for pigs, calves, etc., and may be reckoned at 5 cents per gallon, a sum actually covering the cost of production, and the income of an average dairy may be stated something like this: 200 lbs. butter per cow, \$45, less making; 400 gallons skim milk at 5 cents per gallon, \$20, a combined sum that is rather above the cheese factory returns, and unless milk is purchased, when the income of a cow rarely goes above \$45, a large amount of work is dispensed with and other matters that usually claim much of the farmers attention.

To properly run a creamery of 300 cows it will require three men; a foreman, assistant, and cream drawer. These receive a salary, the foreman usually receiving about \$50 per month, the other two about \$20 each and board. The directors serve for the honor, while a moderate compensation is allowed the auditor for keeping the accounts, and striking and proportioning the dividends, and paying the same. The company either buys or pays for the use of a house, or two, as the size of the creamery may demand. Usually, however, the gatherer owns his own team, and thus receives an allowance for the same and wagon. As we have indicated, the creameries are either patron or individual concerns. The only difference to the farmer is, that to the one, the cream is sold either on contract for a stated price for the season, or by a sliding scale regulated by the market. By the other, the farmers share in the expense of manufacture and place their butter weekly, upon the market, subject to its rises and falls, but saving the per cent. to themselves that the individual creamery man claims as his legitimate right.

The hundreds of these establishments that are springing up all over the United States, from rocky New England to rockier Colorado, is only proof that they could flourish equally well in MARYLAND. So far, it is the only system that will raise the grade of farm butter to a point of successful competition; and draw a distinctive line

between poor farm butter and Oleo; raising the one to a level that guarantees to dairy products a paying return, and sinks the other to the level of soap fat, its proper appellation.

JOHN GOULD.

Western Reserve, Ohio.

First Year's Growth most Important

Let any large dairyman look through his herd, and he will find his most profitable cows to be those of the greatest digestive capacity, and the history of these will show that they were thrifty growers as calves. The first year is the critical period in the growth of the future cow. A respectable size cannot be attained at two years old, without a vigorous growth the first year; besides, it should be remembered that it requires less food to produce a given weight the first year than the second. It will cost very little more food to produce 600 pounds growth the first year, than 300 pounds the second year—this law of growth has become familiar to the readers of the JOURNAL, both from precept and example. It is therefore very bad economy to feed heifer calves sparingly, as the older they become, the more it will cost to put on the weight required. After many experiments and careful observation, the practice of having heifers come in at two years old is rapidly gaining ground, both in the United States and in all the dairying districts of Europe. It is the general observation that a heifer coming in at two years, develops into a better cow at four, than if she came in at three years; and this is attributed to the early development of the milking habit. It therefore becomes imperative that the heifer calf should have generous food and care the first summer. There can be no valid excuse for neglecting it. The patron of the cheese factory may raise very fine heifer calves upon whey by adding other food to it. He must not fear the cost of the small amount of other food required to balance the defects in the whey. The cost of this food will not represent half the extra value of the calves from its use.—*National Live Stock Journal, Chicago.*

OLD potatoes may be freshened up by plunging them into cold water before cooking them.

POULTRY HOUSE.

Conducted by T. B. Dorsey,
St. Denis, Baltimore Co., Md.

The Partridge Cochins.



The last of the Cochin family is, in point of color, by far the handsomest of them all, the cocks being most gorgeously plumaged in the contrasting shades of red, black, golden, green and blue, while the sober brown of the hen, pencilled with a lighter shade of the same color, is equally attractive. They possess very much the same distinctive qualities as their congeners, in regard to laying and other points, and rather outweigh the black and white Cochins. They are especially adapted in point of color for breeders in a city, as dust and smoke do not seem to mar the beauties of their plumage to any great extent, and they are quiet and easily managed. They are, however, like most Cochins, voracious eaters, and if allowed to gratify their appetites to their fullest extent will soon cease to lay, become sluggish, and lazy and there will be danger among the hens of the disease known as "breaking down," where the body in the region of the tail becomes so fat that the muscles are unable to support its weight and the hen drags herself along the ground, unable to walk upright. Medium feeding is the only safe course with them.

ROUP.

This is the most pestilential and devastating disease known to the poultry tribe. It has as many forms as Proteus; is as difficult of cure as swamp ague, and needs a never ending and unremitting watchfulness on the part of the breeder. A great deal of sickness among the birds of farmers, which they call cholera, is in reality nothing but roup. It is, in fact, a species of catarrh, which ranges from an ordinary cold in the head to the direst form of consumption. It is insidious, stealthy, deadly; and all my experience has, as yet, failed to find a certain cure. Red pepper, vaseline, black oil, pills of diverse kinds, bromide of potash and a host of others. I have tried them all and what will cure one will fail with another. Strict attention and care is the

best remedy. Unlike cholera it cannot be traced to certain causes. It comes among the best cared for and healthiest birds, and watchfulness is the only safeguard. Even its symptoms are so manifold that one can hardly describe them with any great degree of accuracy, and much of prevention and cure is guesswork.

The first universal symptom is moping, with ruffled feathers and head carried under the wing. Another is loss of appetite, excessive thirst and emaciation. Foul discharges from eyes and nose, sneezing and gaping are others. Keep sick bird warm, remove from others, clean eyes and nose thoroughly and keep them clean. Give any of the remedies I have cited above, and if they have no effect change to something else. Keep bird well fed on soft nutritious, easily digested food, not grain, put astringents or tonics in the water, red pepper and ginger being preferable, give fat meat in limited quantity, sprinkled with pepper, and you may save your birds; and then again you may not. People will tell you they have a sovereign cure. Do not believe them. Try their remedies if they are cheap, and if they are of any avail, use them, but do not expect too much from them. If the bird is of little value, when it gets quite sick, the best and most certain cure I know is the hatchet, "off with its head," and sleep in peace.

The Lancaster County, Pa. Poultry Association, will hold their third annual show, January, 12-18, 1882, at Lancaster. The Secretary, J. B. Lichty, writes us, that they were very successful the last show, being the largest exhibition of poultry held in the State in 1881, and that they expect to have a larger and better one this year. The management are making every effort to make it an object for fanciers to send their best stock. The Premium List will be ready by 1st November.

IT IS CURING EVERYBODY—Writes a druggist. "Kidney-Wort is the most popular medicine we sell." It should be by right, for no other medicine has such specific action on the liver, bowels and kidneys. If you have those symptoms which indicate biliousness or deranged kidneys do not fail to procure it and use faithfully. In liquid or dry form it is sold by all druggists.—*Salt Lake City Tribune*.

Sheep Barking Fruit Trees.

Under certain circumstances sheep will gnaw the bark of young fruit-trees, and not unfrequently destroy them, and always injure them, sometimes to a serious extent. This action on the part of the sheep is induced from thirst, for although sheep require very little water, and seldom drink any when the pasture is wet, yet, when this is not the case they require water as do other animals. To prevent them from disturbing the trees, it is found that a wash, made after the following directions, will prove an efficient remedy:—Dissolve a pound of whale-oil soap in six gallons of water, and into this stir a quantity of sheep manure, until about the consistency of common white-wash, and apply this to the trees for some four or five feet from the ground. Sheep will not even rub themselves against trees thus treated, much less gnaw them. The wash must be repeated every six or eight weeks, especially if there is much rain to carry it off. Besides protecting the trees, there is nothing better to drive away injurious insects, smooth the bark and fertilize the soil around the bark.—*German-town Telegraph*.

EDUCATED WOMEN.—Refined and educated will sometimes suffer in silence for years, from kidney diseases, or constipation and piles, which could easily be cured by a package of Kidney-Wort. There is hardly a woman to be found that does not, at some time, suffer from some of the diseases for which this great remedy is a specific. It is put up in liquid and dry forms, equally efficient.—*Springfield Union*.

Hanchett & Carter, proprietors of the great 12th Street Livery, Chicago, in a letter dated December 5, 1879, speak thus of Kendall's Spavin Cure: "It is several years since we bought the first of you, and we do not hesitate to say it is the very best article for spavins, ringbones, scratches, splints, etc., that we ever used. We would not be without it in our large livery for thousands of dollars. We pronounce it one of the greatest discoveries of the age. It stands without a peer in horse liniments." See advertisements.

MARYLAND FARMER

A STANDARD MAGAZINE,

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture and Rural Economy.

EZRA WHITMAN, Editor,

COL. W. W. W. BOWIE, Associate Editor,

141 WEST PRATT STREET,

BALTIMORE, MD.

BALTIMORE, NOVEMBER 1st, 1881.

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Any person who sends us 100 Subscribers, at \$1.00, will receive the world-renowned Howe Sewing Machine, with all the latest improvements. Value, \$50.00.

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Any person who sends us 6 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive a Nickel-Plated Revolver, Long Fluted Cylinder. Value \$2.50.

THESE ARTICLES WE WARRANT TO BE FIRST-CLASS.

☞ It will not be necessary to secure the subscribers all at one time. For instance, if any one wants the Mill we offer for 80 new subscribers, he can send the names in any number he chooses, and we will allow him a whole year to finish the club.

☞ COL. D. S. CURTIS, of Washington, D. C., is authorized to act as Correspondent and Agent to receive subscriptions and advertisements for the MARYLAND FARMER, in the District of Columbia Maryland and Virginia.

☞ Our friends can do us a good turn by mentioning the MARYLAND FARMER to their neighbors, and suggesting to them to subscribe for it.

Now is the Time to Subscribe

—FOR THE—

Maryland Farmer,

A Monthly Magazine devoted to

Agriculture, Horticulture,
AND RURAL ECONOMY

The oldest Agricultural Journal in Maryland and
for ten years the only one.

TERMS: \$1.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

Published by Ezra Whitman.

The subscription price is very low, and we think any farmer, merchant or mechanic would find it worth to him ten times its cost. As an extra inducement, we will send (free, as a premium,) to each subscriber, one of the following valuable books as he may select, viz:— 'Kendall's Horse Book,' 'Curtis' Wheat Culture,' 'Fisher's Grain Tables,' or 'Scribner's Lumber and Log Book,' either of these books are worth to the farmer more than the price of our Journal, and by enclosing \$1.00 the Maryland Farmer will be promptly sent you for one year and either of the books you may select, free of postage.

EZRA WHITMAN.

Southern Maryland Fair Association

We are rejoiced to see that an agricultural association, under the above title, has been formed in Prince George's County, Md., where one of the earliest and best societies was formed and existed for five years, at a time when agriculture was at a low ebb in this State, and which Society gave an impetus to the new-born progress in science, that was seized hold of by the enterprising supporters of an improved agriculture throughout the State, and was the literal beginner of the county societies and the true originator of the State society. Great credit is due to the projectors of the first Prince George's Agricultural Society, most of whom are now beyond praise or reproof, and it is to be hoped that the successors and descendants of those sturdy farmers will prove, under the influence of the present lights of an improved husbandry, a corresponding increased zeal and advancement in progress, and give to the world an evidence of their being "worthy sons of worthy sires," in the magnitude and superiority of the exhibits of this young aspirant to the public applause, for efforts and aims exceeding those of their fathers, and evincing the fact that they have kept pace with the great progress of the age, and have never forgotten the good seed their progenitors sowed in years long ago, and who then had full faith that it would sooner or later bear fruit to the honor of their memory, and the material emolument of their successors.

It is a good move to appeal to their sister counties for help and co-operation. We trust that Charles, Calvert, St. Mary's and Anne Arundel will quickly give their aid and their countenance to this embryo society to enable it soon to become the great "Southern Maryland Agricultural Association," like what was intended to be the one we so zealously labored to establish lately, at Laurel, as the "Tri-County Agricultural Society." Our heartiest will

and hopes are involved in this new organization, which we look upon as a great step to advance the general welfare of the whole tier of counties in Southern Maryland, and the individual prosperity of the people of that section.

Recipe for Whooping Cough.

The following recipe for this distressing complaint was given to us by a matronly German lady, who says it has been used with great success in her family and by numbers. It is not a cure, but gives great relief and aids in speedy recovery. Take a handful of fresh chestnut leaves, and with one quart of water, boil until reduced to one pint. Take out the leaves and add to the water half a pound of common brown sugar and boil to a thin syrup. Dose—One tablespoonful, three or four times a day and through the night, if the cough is troublesome.

Horticultural Curiosities.

Our friend, George P. Wilkinson, of Baltimore county, showed us a California bean, 5 feet long, and about six inches only in circumference. It is not edible, but to us it seems not a bean, but a fine specimen of the Hercules Club Gourd.

Mr. Wilkinson lost largely by the sudden frost the night of the 8th. He was cutting 5000 pickling cucumbers every other day, and expected to continue to do so for a fortnight, but the frost put an untimely end to his bonanza. The long California bean lies across the horns of a Texas steer, which are four feet between tip and tip, that grace the entrance door of the Wagner fashionable Green House Restaurant, just above the Maltby House, opposite our office.

Mr. William Kochler, of this city, brought to our office a specimen of the Dish-garden cucumber. This remarkable plant

grows well in Baltimore, and really is useful. It seems to be a gourd, which, when ripe, and the outer shell is taken off, the whole inside is easily spread open and forms a spongy cloth, some 8 by 10 inches or more in size, and is a real and useful dish-rag, or a perfect substitute for the mop in cleaning dishes, etc. It can be used many times, if carefully straightened out and dried after use. Much is claimed for its efficiency in cleaning greasy dishes, over the ordinary dish cloth. At least it would be well for economical housekeepers to give it a trial as it is easily grown and no trouble in preparing it for use.

Catalogues Received.

Received from Ellwanger and Barry, Rochester, N. Y., their autumn catalogues of fruit trees and roses. Enough to say that these catalogues are gotten up in a style suitable to so old and popular a nursery as theirs, which is the "old and reliable" of the great West.

From J. T. Lovett, Little Silver, New Jersey, catalogue of choice small fruits, trees and plants.

From Vilmorin, Andrieux & Co., Paris, (France) Price list of Gladiolus roots and bulbous plants.

From Hiram Sibley & Co., Rochester, N. Y., their well arranged and valuable catalogue of seeds, containing brief directions for culture, with also an Almanac for 1882.

The "Oxford Park" flock of Oxford Down Sheep have again this season been very successful at the Chicago, Peoria, (Ills. State Fair,) Pittsburgh, (Penn. State Fair) and last, but not least, the great show at St. Louis. At the above named places they won most of the leading prizes as well as sweepstakes, by which it will be seen that Oxfords are growing as popular in America as in England, especially so when shown in such competition which were the best England could produce in the way of Shropshires and Hampshires.

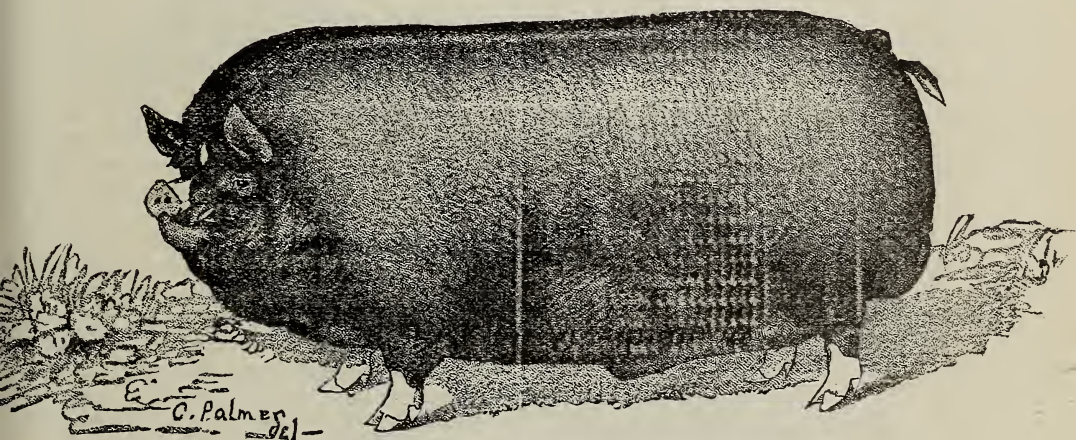
LIVE STOCK REGISTER.

We give a portrait drawn from life, of a very valuable Berkshire Boar, belonging to the herd of A. M. Fulford, of Bel Air, Harford county, Md. Mr. Fulford owns the largest and choicest herd of Berkshires in this country, and deserves great credit for his enterprise, skill and judgment in keeping up the national reputation of his Berkshires.

There are many highly esteemed breeds of hogs in England, and American breeds of great repute, but the pure, improved

bacon, the jowls, shoulders and middlings will be well mixed with fat and lean, while the hams will be marbled, tender, juicy and rated in value above all the other breeds, which cut two or three inches of solid fat, and the rest tough and dry bacon. For the markets of the world, other breeds may have greater advantages, but for individual family use the Berkshire is unrivallad.

We had just written the above when we received the following letter from Mr. Fulford, and thinking it will be of interest to our readers, especially to those engaged in breeding swine, we give it in full.



— D'ISRAELI - 813 —

Berkshire still holds its position as the "gentleman's or epicurean's hog," like the South-down, stands as a purely mutton sheep, the acknowledged head of all breeds of sheep. The Berkshire hog when a sucking pig should have all the milk it can drink, or good gruel, and after being weaned it should be turned on clover or good grass, and have, occasionally, a small feed of grain. When 5 months old it should be liberally fed corn, beans, sweet potatoes, or acorns, &c. By this system pork will cost but little, and the Berkshire pig of 6 to 8 months old, will yield from 140 to 200 lbs of delicious meat. When cured into

BEL-AIR, MD., Oct. 18th, 1881.

Editors Maryland Farmer:

First thanking you for your handsome notice of my herd in your last issue, I send you herewith a short account of my winnings, which may be of interest to you.

The importation of Berkshires noticed in the October number arrived safely, and after a rest of two days at my farm, five of them, with thirty of my own breeding started for the Western shows. Among them was the first pure boar at the English Royal and at Cirencester, and considered to be the best Berkshire boar shown in England this year. Also a boar that won "highly commended and reserved number" at the Royal. A sow, winner

at the Royal of the first prize in pen of three sows of the same litter, under six months old. Also a sow, first prize winner in a pen of three sisters at Cirencester. Another, a winner of a like prize at Bath. The balance of my imported brood sows were left at home to farrow. Though not showing in every class, and for no herd prize, until at St. Louis, on account of the requirements for age of animals. I won, at Minneapolis, a sweepstakes, together with seven first and five second premiums.

At Chicago, sweepstakes, four first and two second premiums. At the Illinois State Fair, two sweepstakes, three first and one second. At St. Louis, where I could show in but few classes on account of sales made, I won 1st, on two-year old boars, sweepstakes on best Berkshire herd, composed of one boar and four sows. At the Illinois State Fair, I purchased Bob Hood, 2079, who, there, in 1881 and 1880, won at the head of the best Berkshire herd of one boar and four sows. In 1879 and 1880, he won first in his class at the same Fair. He has won also at St. Louis and other Western shows. I shall use him as a breeder, and with Robin Hood III, Shakespeare and four imported boars, noted prize winners, I may safely claim that my herd has at its head more first class sires than any other in the country.

Yours truly,
ALEX. M. FULFORD.

Sheep as Grain Growers.

We clip the following from that excellent agricultural and newspaper, the *Rural Messenger*, of Petersburg, Va.

"Arthur R. Jenner Fust, in his 'Wheat Culture,' writes: It is my firm belief that the real reason why our wheat crops only yield half as much as the English crops is, that in England they utilize sheep as grain growers, while we only consider them as wool and mutton makers. I have even heard of an essay on 'Sheep, as the Scavengers of the Farm,' meaning probably, 'pickers up of the unconsidered trifles,' in the form of weeds. Now, though I object entirely to sheep being degraded into scavengers, I, with admirable inconsistency, admire them greatly in their office of dung carriers. And with reason; for I was born and bred up to manhood in that part

of England, in which the whole of the farms are indebted for their very existence as productive soil, to the sheep fold. How many years ago the regular system of folding first obtained, I never could find out. It is a very simple business. The sheep go to fold about seven in the evening; the next morning, as soon as the dew is off, they are let out and run on the natural down pasture for an hour or two; they are then allowed to feed on some early forage plant—rye, tares, winter barley, winter oats, then a few hours on the downs again; another feed of forage plants, and about 4 P. M. they graze their way along the downs to the fold. The inclosure of wattled hurdles is arranged to accommodate a certain number of sheep, so that the land may be properly and regularly manured. The calculation is that one sheep passing one night on one square yard of land is equal in money value, to £3 10s. (\$17.50) per acre; and it is upon this basis that acts of husbandry, as they are called, for which the incoming tenant has to pay his predecessor are valued. Think for a moment of what passes in the fold during the night. The land has been recently plowed; the liquid and solid dejections are therefore easily absorbed, the oil from the fleece forming by no means an inappreciable part of them. The sheep, many weighing from 100 to 120 pounds, each, pass eight or ten hours crouched on the same spot, and the pressure of their bodies, together with the trampling of their tiny hoofs, condense and solidify the land in a fashion that no roller could hope to emulate.

Keeping Sheep on Farms.

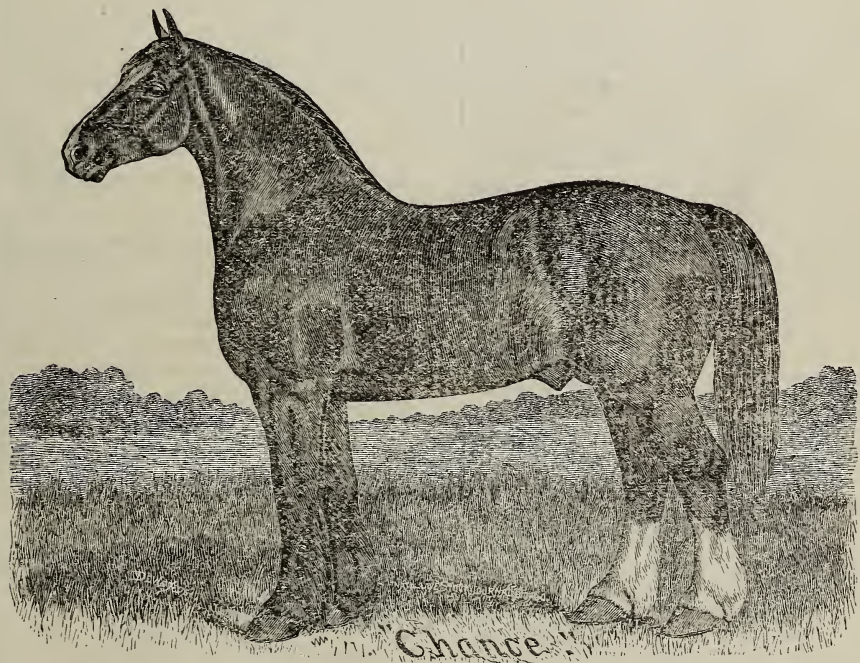
The *National Live Stock Journal* thus sums up the reasons why every farmer should have a flock of sheep.

"A farm can be stocked with sheep for less money than with cattle horses or hogs. Sheep will come nearer to utilising everything that grows on the farm than other animals. Less labor will be required for getting feed and stock together. The returns will come in sooner and oftener than with any other farm stock, except hogs. Less money is required for shelter and fencing, and less labor is involved in herding, where outside pasture is accessible and preferred. And finally, a handsome income on the investment can be had without the sale of the animals themselves."

Clydesdale Horses.

France and Normandy claim the crown for the Percheron or Norman Diligence horses, but Scotland asserts her right to the title of "King of Draft Horses" for her Clydesdale. We confess that both are so superior we do not choose to express a preference. Every man has his peculiar ideas and will most likely pursue his own judgment or gratify his own prejudices irrespective of any opinion of ours; there-

ful and extensive farm "Shadeland," where they keep large herds of Holstein and Devon cattle; flocks of Black-faced Highland sheep, famed as mutton sheep; Berkshire hogs; and trotting horses of Hamiltonian stock, and a large number of Clydesdale horses, having in their stalls 70 lately imported. Persons who desire to breed good stock would do well to read the advertisement in this number of the MARYLAND FARMER, and correspond or visit this enterprising firm, which has invested so largely



fore we readily set forth the claims of either breed, and give, when we can, illustrations of choice specimens that our readers may judge for themselves, after a full investigation.

We give the above picture of "Chance," taken from life. He is a pure Clydesdale imported by the Messrs. Powell Brothers, of Springboro', Crawford county, Pa.

The Messrs. Powell have a large breeding and sale establishment on their beauti-

ful and extensive farm "Shadeland," where they keep large herds of Holstein and Devon cattle; flocks of Black-faced Highland sheep, famed as mutton sheep; Berkshire hogs; and trotting horses of Hamiltonian stock, and a large number of Clydesdale horses, having in their stalls 70 lately imported. Persons who desire to breed good stock would do well to read the advertisement in this number of the MARYLAND FARMER, and correspond or visit this enterprising firm, which has invested so largely

A Cow with three rings on a horn is six years old; with four, she is seven years old. No new rings are formed after the tenth year. The deeper rings, however, and the worn appearance of the horns are pretty sure indications of old age.

The Devon.

The Devon is the oldest race of pure-blooded cattle. Their antiquity is unquestioned, and they have been noted from the earliest periods of which we have any authentic account, for their beautiful and symmetrical forms, the good quality of their flesh and milk. In portions of England they have ever been favorite cattle with the breeder, as they have been and are to-day with the butcher and consumer of beef throughout the world wherever known.

A century or more ago the spirit of improvement took possession of our English cousins, and they began the upbuilding of other breeds of cattle. This spirit of improvement has brought forth the beautiful Short-horn, a breed of cattle that in a few years filled England with its praises, crossed oceans, traversed continents, and everywhere met with favor wherever they were introduced, they left their unmistakable impress on the cattle of the country, so that to-day, it must be confessed that no breed of cattle has done so much to improve the cattle and increase the beef production of the world as the Short-horn. While the enterprising breeders on the bank of the Tees were engaged in perfecting the Short-horn, those of Hereford and adjoining counties were giving form to the massive, short-legged, round-bodied and fat-producing Hereford. And these two large and beautiful breeds of cattle have been brought to that degree of perfection, that at this time they are receiving the laudations of the civilized world. And far be it from me to detract in any way from their well earned reputations, or to pluck one leaf from the laurel wreaths that crown them. On the contrary, I am quite ready to render them full credit for all their grace and many fine qualities.

With two such rivals in the field, it may seem like presumption in the little Devon, to enter the lists and claim even a passing notice. But while the cattle war is progressing between these two eminent beef-producing breeds, the little Devon would present himself at your door and humbly beg permission to be briefly heard in his own defense. The race can be bred in regions and on lands and under circumstances that the Short-horn cannot. Their beef is of the highest class. They are hardy, active, will get fat where a Short-horn will

not, and live where the latter will starve. Besides, though smaller than the Short-horn, and one year later in maturing, yet, when put to feed in pasture at four with Short-horns, will make as many pounds of beef per acre as Short-horns; and their beef will have this advantage, it will be better in quality than that of the average Short-horns, and will be in smaller cuts to meet family demands.

Now in regions where Short-horns cannot go, there is no beast on earth to compare with the Devon to fill them. He will stand Arctic cold and tropic heat. They flourish in Canada and Cuba. Can anything be said more recommending? They are good milkers, rich in quality and good in quantity. They make the best and quietest work cattle, and where the Short-horns cannot go, supplant all other cattle.—*Ex.*

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

Chats with the Ladies for November.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

AUTUMN.

"The leaf is red—the leaf is sere—
Sere as a rotten shroud.

Grey Winter gems his icy bier,
And folds his pall of cloud,
For drifting leaves and closing days,
He trolls his sullen funeral lays.

"The leaf is red—the leaf is sere—
See yonder muffled train
Of dismal shadows creeping near,
Old age, and care and pain;
They bid me with them tell my beads
For pleasant flowers and bitter seeds.

"The leaf is red—the leaf is sere—
Ah, redder than the gold—
A royal splendor crowns the year,
In pomp, he waxeth old.
He laughs, and jovial riches yields
From purple branch and yellow fields.

"The leaf is red—the leaf is sere—
Think you my sun is set?
With wine, and song and friendship here
And many a blessing yet,
I'll live to nobly spend the store
Of hoarded joys I spared before."

The past month in Baltimore has been one of almost incessant stir, bustle, jollity, brisk changes from one sort of entertainment to another, until I might say the madness of joyous excitement seemed to rule. The Oriole, the reception of foreign guests of the nation, the completion of the water works exemplified by Mayor Latrobe smiting the rock at Calvert street, Battle Monument, and deluging that venerable pile, as well

as the people around, with water brought for miles away from the city, by engineering skill and laudable effort—military, police and fire department parades—the grand Pimlico horse races—and the Annual State Agricultural Fair.

All these Autumnal pleasures at but small cost individually, were enjoyed by over a hundred thousand stranger visitors, from all parts of the country, and by the people of this city, who were thereby in worldly store enriched, no doubt, to the vast amount of millions of dollars put in circulation, and chiefly by those who were attracted by the combination of events offered during this short period. The railroads with an eye to their own interest were the main causes that brought, by their reduced rates, this influx of strangers, and helped to build up the growing popularity of this *Mistress City* of the South. The people of Baltimore are certainly happy and contented with the results of October, 1881, for once at least, and we have reason to believe that our visiting guests were satisfied and ready to "*cut and come again.*"

The Yorktown Centennial Celebration has called forth every conceivable reminiscence of that period, and of the chief actors in that memorable closing fight of the Revolution. Especially also have people refreshed their memories and hunted up mementoes illustrative of the incidents connected with the pleasant visit Lafayette paid this country in 1824, after he had suffered his long and agonizing imprisonment in the dungeons of Olmutz, inflicted by tyranny for his unbounded love of liberty, and his personal bravery and sacrifices in its cause, not only in America, but in his own land and in Europe.

As I like to go with the rolling tide of the fashions of the day, and try to keep so close upon Fashion's heels as not to appear queer, and yet not entirely one of its devotees, I am constrained to tell you some trifling personal remembrance of the patriot Frenchman, which I never certainly would have put in print, but for the prevailing *fashion* of the times.

At the time, I was a small boy attending a private school kept at Mount Oak, the homestead of Mr. J. B. Mullikin, in Prince George's county, near the public road leading from Bladensburg to Governor's Bridge. It was known that Genl. Lafayette had spent the night at Northampton, the residence of Governor Samuel Sprigg—a few miles from our school, and that the general with his escort of cavalry would pass by our place on his way to Annapolis via the Governor's Bridge. People all along the road was on the watch, and though it was cold and raining hard, the boys of

our school, Walter B. Bowie, R. N. Snowden, John Contee, (alas! all now dead,) and myself waited by the roadside under a large oak tree, wet to our skins. At last the cortege passed and Gov. Sprigg sitting in the carriage with Lafayette, recognizing the sons of his near neighbors, asked the General to allow him to introduce us, as a reward for our exhibition of boyish patriotic courtesy to the nation's guest. The carriage was stopped and we severally entered it, were introduced, kissed and embraced warmly, not regarding our dripping garments. In a fatherly way, the kind, old soldier complimented us on our hardihood in facing such a storm, gave us his thanks for the pleasure we afforded him by this tribute of respect, some encouraging advice and we left with proud hearts that we had been so highly honored. Such an incident as this, of course, could never be forgotten, it was one of the great notches in the tree of ones life, indelible, ineffaceable from the tablets of memory. There are few now living I apprehend, who can say that they were kissed, embraced and treated with such fraternal kindness and affection by that good man, brave soldier and noble Frenchman, who spent his treasure and shed his blood, without fee or reward, that our people might be free and self governing.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Hints on House Cleaning.

BY COUSIN MEHITABEL.

House Cleaning.

In entering upon this branch of my subject, I fear I shall run counter to the prejudice of the housekeeping community, as in most houses the time honored custom of undergoing a general tearing down and cleaning out process, seems to be the order twice a year or oftener. Without attempting anything like a description of the aspect of affairs at such seasons, I must say I do not wonder that the men of the family get out of all patience, and fall into a frame of mind that sends them wandering about like that traditional "cat in a strange garret," that is, if like the majority of men, they don't know enough to help to bring the household chaos into comfortable order. There are a *few* men who shall have credit while they are with us, and who shall be of blessed memory when they depart; who are not only and simply just nuisances at house cleaning time. Most men, we should like to be able to pack up and lay by with the mirrors, pictures, and other ornamental articles, till all the sweeping,

scrubbing and moving are done, and all ready for the re-beautifying. Without jesting though, do we not "fash" ourselves too much with cleaning house? In these days of paint and varnish, stained wood, kalsomined walls and oiled floors, is it necessary to disarrange at the same time, everything in the house to clean it? Even where the old fashioned paint and whitewash have to be used, is it not possible to get through the spring and fall cleaning in a less piled up manner? Clean one room at a time as it needs it, and such a general confusion might be avoided. It will disarrange one room, of course, but that is far preferable to having the whole house upside down. Windows can be taken out and cleaned at any time; a carpet shaken when it is dusty; door and window frames cleaned, and painted or varnished walls rubbed down at any time, without making any general disarrangement. Some day we may see all this, but till that day comes we must be content to allow house-keepers their semi-annual splashing.

It is a very frequent error to clean house too early in the spring. I have known house-keepers boast of having finished in April. Many make it a rule not to be later. This is a great mistake and often fraught with dangerous consequences. In our changeable climate, *June* is a much more suitable month for taking down stoves and a general wetting and cooling process than April or May.

Where rooms are large enough to allow it without too much inconvenience, the stoves had best not be put away at all. They can be kept in much better order standing where they belong, and there are so many cool, damp evenings through the summer, when a little fire would so pleasantly dry and temper the air. Where fire-place heaters are used in winter, the rooms should be supplied with small wood stoves for use until Christmas, until severe cold. These are very inexpensive, and may, when not in use, be so covered as to be very ornamental. Have a table, no matter how roughly made, consisting of one board and four legs made of proper dimensions to set over the stove. Let the legs play out well at the bottom so as to insure it against upsetting, and to make the drapery hang well. With cloth, merino, delaine or plain colored muslin, in correspondence with the prevailing color in the room and with the means of the owner, make a curtain that will go all around the top and long enough to rest upon the floor. Make it quite full so that it will hang prettily, sew it in box plaits to a piece of strong tape or a strip of cotton, and tack it neatly around the edge of

the table. Make a cover for the top large enough to fall over a few inches. Trim the edges of this with fringe, woollen lace, a ruffle, or with anything fancy may dictate. A handsome addition to the trimming is a heavy cord festooned from corner to corner, and fastened at the corners, with long heavy tassels; or the cords may be fastened with rosettes on the corners and the tassels placed at the middle of each festoon, the cord having sufficient length to tie in a pretty bow. Cut an opening at the back for the stovepipe. Place the affair over the stove and there it is, seemingly a graceful stand for a vase of flowers. When the stove is needed, all to be done is to lift the pretty stand to a corner of the room.

Whoever tries this plan for one summer will repeat it in all after summers. A chilly, rainy day in summer, when the windows are all closed and everybody yawning around, in sacques and shawls, half shivering and altogether uncomfortable, is one of the disagreeable varieties inevitably befalling us in the changeable weather of our latitude. Where an open fire-place can be made available, that is the place where the chilly ones will flock for cheer in the damp, cool days of summer weather. There should always be some place down stairs, besides the kitchen, where a fire may be used in summer, and one room, at least, upstairs, should have its stove ready; for sickness comes in summer as well as in winter, and fire is almost always needed in case of illness.

In putting down new carpets have the floor nicely cleaned and thoroughly swept. If the carpet should wrinkle or seem loose at the seams, after it is tacked down, dampen it well with clean water, spread a piece of old calico on it to avoid scorching, and press the puckered places with hot irons. When dry, the seams will be nice and flat. In cleaning all kinds of paint, varnish, glass, marble, etc., use soft cloths and brushes, moderately warm water, and mild soap. Borax water is nice for almost any kind of cleaning. In using any kind of chemical preparation for cleaning brass or silver, or for any other purpose, be very careful to see that everything of the sort is kept entirely out of the children's reach, for nearly all those preparations are deadly poisons, if taken into the stomach, and children are very apt to taste any strange thing they may find. There are many labor-saving contrivances for house-cleaning. Cold tea is said to be excellent for cleaning all kinds of varnished and dark colored wood. It will not do for unvarnished paint. Spanish whiting is nice to clean white paint. Clean brass by removing all rust and black with

a little oxalic acid. Dip a wet cloth in the acid, rub the article quickly, wipe it with a clean cloth, wrung out of warm water, let it dry and polish it with rotten stone or Tripoli powder.

Tripoli soap cleans *silver* and *plated ware* nicely, but a much better article is to be had at the jewelry stores. It is called "Indexical" soap, is white and very heavy. For blacking a stove in the best manner, beat up the white of an egg till it is quite a thick froth, then beat in the black lead or "British Lustre," till thoroughly mixed. Put on as other blacking. The stove must be cold. It is harder work to blacken a stove in this manner, but it looks much better when done, than by the usual modes of using water, milk or vinegar, to mix the blacking, and looks well a good while longer, as the egg keeps the lead from rubbing off. An old, soft, silk handkerchief, or tissue or grenadine veil, is an excellent thing to polish *glass*, after cleaning. Soiled spots can be removed from nice carpets after the dust has been well beaten out, by washing just as one would wash a bare floor, with a clean cloth and clean warm water, with two or three tablespoonfuls of spirits of ammonia mixed in it. Wet and rub the spots well and rinse in clean, warm water. The ammonia will not hurt any color. Either chloride of lime or kerosene oil is certain death to all insect pests.

Strychnine is the best exterminator of mice. Mix a little with some meal or sugar, or spread it on a bit of cheese. Put it where the mice can have free access to it. It is better than arsenic or mouse traps, as it kills the creatures almost instantly, thus preventing them from dying about in the walls. The dead mice must be buried or cremated, as they will poison anything that may eat them.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Strawberries—Hop Picking—Keeping Apples—Canning and Curing Fruits, &c.

SHEANDOAH CO., VA.

Messrs. Editors:—With many thanks for your favorable notice of my first communication, I write again as I promised in my previous letter. As I wrote hastily at the time, I omitted to mention the culture of strawberries, as a source of enjoyment if not of profit. Some fourteen years ago we lived about half a mile from our present home; we bought plants of the finest varieties in market at that time. Our object was not to raise them for market, especially, yet after having

a bountiful share of our own, we sold enough I think the first year to pay for the outlay. About a year ago we moved to our present home. Having this in view, we moved some of the most thrifty plants several years ago. Owing to the pressure of other work they received little or no attention, except a covering of straw during the winter. The garden was not enclosed until late last spring, and the fowls ranged freely over it, yet from a bed of thirty-eight by twelve feet, we were regaled with a dish of berries, twice a day, for three weeks, besides some to spare for our neighbors. We did not measure them, because there was no necessity for it, and we did not think at the time of writing for your journal, but there must have been many more gallons than I would like to name. I mention the fact because the idea prevails that the culture of the strawberry requires a great deal of labor, and yet these grew abundantly and to a great size with scarcely any cultivation whatever. Some of the berries, and not a few of them could not be eaten at a mouthful. We have wild berries growing in the corner of a field a few hundred yards away. These, I use for canning and preserving, as they are more solid and somewhat acid. The tame berries are intended only for home use, as they are too soft and juicy for transportation.

The hop harvest came off in due time, which, owing to the drought was not what it had been in former years. The hops the present season being all gathered by the regular farm hands. The previous plan had been to employ six or eight boys from a neighboring town, verging from ten to fourteen years of age. They were usually trained pickers and understood the art perfectly, for as in everything else, however simple the process may seem, skilled hands can do the work much better than unskilled ones. Then there was the novelty of spending eight or ten days in the country, free almost as the air they breathed, the practical jokes played upon each other, and the general good humor that prevailed, the merry-making at night when the work was over, with no lack of pluck or energy on the morrow. Long live these boys, I say, if the muskmelons, the early peaches and the grapes did suffer. I suggest to all interested to have a plentiful supply of each on hand at the hop picking season.

Next in order are the apples, of which we have not as many as in former years, owing partly to drought, but more to the fact that the old orchard is dying and the young one not far enough advanced to be profitable. Most of the fruit being imperfect, makes it necessary to secure as much

of it as possible by canning and drying. During the process of picking there are always some apples that show signs of decay. These, of course, will be kept separate for present use. The method of spreading the apples out in a cool, dry place, until in danger of freezing, is so well understood as to scarcely be worth mentioning. I have an apple before me now, the Winter Green or Leather Coat, a basketful of which variety was brought into the room some years ago on a festive occasion on the 5th of May. There was no unusual method of packing, only kept cool and dry, protected from freezing and assorted carefully. Many persons complain of great difficulty in keeping canned fruit, and are continually asking for information on the subject. I find no difference in the kind of can used in the process. Mason's or any other that I can get at the nearest point. The trouble is either in the fruit itself or in the manner of putting it up. I find tomatoes, peaches and all the early berries, the most difficult to manage, but rarely lose one in ten of these, and console myself for the loss by concluding I am as successful in this as in any other line of business that I am acquainted with. There have been rainy days, when I could not send to the garden for dinner, during the tomato season, and as a necessity I have placed canned tomatoes upon the table and they were eaten with a relish, both by the family and visitors without a suspicion from whence they came. This I consider a success, even if I lose one in ten. My method of canning fruit is to fill the can brim full of apples, after they have been well cooked with sugar enough to make them palatable and ready for use' seal each can as it is filled, and if there are any air cells or cavities, they will appear in a minute or as soon as the fruit is settled. The can is opened, the fruit pressed down and filled again while the fruit is hot. The cans are placed in a cool, convenient place, where the screws or caps can be tightened as the fruit cools. After being placed in the fruit cellar, it is best to notice them for a few days, until they are perfectly safe from explosion or fermentation. The result of my experience is, apples are more easily kept than any other kind of fruit. A solid apple, such as the Lady Finger Pippin is best for pickles, sweet pickles, of course, or preserves. For preserving, use a lemon to two pounds of fruit. For cold, stewed apples, use grated nutmeg as it is placed on the table. In frying apples, unless the peeling is soft and tender, I remove it, but if I have the right kind of an apple for frying, (the Milan for instance,) I slice them off the core, not cross-wise, as I have

seen them, and pour them in a pan of hot lard, just enough of lard to keep them from sticking, pour over them, just enough of hot water to moisten so that they fry easily and quickly, when soft, put a little butter and the necessary sweetening, brown on one side and turn over *en masse* as near as possible, when sufficiently browned on both sides, place upon a dish as the butter will soon scorch. Another way of cooking apples is to peel and pare them the same as for drying. Put in a stew-pan with just water enough to soften, then pour into a deep, earthenware dish, draw butter and sugar over the top and bake a light brown. I always "can" some to be used in this way, they are considered a treat, and are very convenient when you have unexpected guests. May I ask if Wicomico is waiting for the "Beautiful Snow, before she resumes her pen?"
M. A. G.

The Fairs for 1881.

The agricultural fairs over the whole country, this year, have been highly successful, and attended by immense crowds of visitors. The county fairs in our own State, in particular. The Cecil, Harford, Washington and Frederick County Fairs were well attended, brilliant in display and proved financial successes. The uncommonly favorable weather for such exhibitions may have had much influence, but we think it shows a gratifying evidence of the increasing interest in agriculture, its rapid progress, and the general prosperity of the country.

THE MARYLAND JOCKEY CLUB.—At Pimlico, held this year, one of the most, if not the most brilliant meetings ever held on its popular grounds. They had fine weather, an army of visitors, splendid racing and a throng of beauty and fashion every day. The Maryland horses were very successful, particularly Gov. O. Bowie's Crickmore and Compensation.

YORK COUNTY, PA. FAIR—Was held the first week of October, and the weather was dry and cool, which brought out the fullest attendance. We were present one

day and were gratified to see the large amount of various farm products, stock, implements, household manufactures, &c., and astonished at the immense crowd, numbering from 18,000 to 20,000 people. It seemed to us, however, that the crowd felt but slight interest in agriculture, and a great deal more in the foot races, trotting races and bicycle races. W.

Poplar Grove Short Horns.

Propt. E. B. Emory, Centreville, Md.

Have thus far won laurels at the three fairs exhibited, to be proud of.

TIMONIUM, BALTO. CO., MD.

1st prize best Herd Short-horns on exhibit.

" " Bull to Kirklevington Lad.

" " Cow to Barrington Bates 12th.
" " 2 year Heifer to Miss Renick Rosette 3rd.

2nd prize " 2 year Heifer, Miss Renick Royal.

" " 1 year Heifer to Countess of Clarence.

WORTON, KENT CO.

1st prize best herd of any herd cattle on exhibition.

" " Bull, Emory's Roan Duke.

" " Cow, Miss Renick, Noxubee 3.

" " 2 year Heifer, Miss Renick, Rosette 3rd.

2nd prize " 2 year heifer, Miss Renick, Royal.

" " Best Bull Kirklevington Lad.

MIDDLETOWN, DEL.

1st prize best herd of any breed of cattle.

" " display Horned Cattle.

" " Bull Kirklevington Lad.

" " Cow, Miss Renick, Noxubee 3.

" " 2 year old Heifer, Countess of Clarence.

2nd prize " Cow, Princess Oxford 10th.

" " Bull, Emory's Roan Duke.

" " 2 year Heifer, Miss Renick Royal.

Mr. Emory has made lately, sales of Short-horns to C. Wright Spry, of Kent Co., Md.—Cows, Muller 5th, @ \$300; Lady Grace 2nd, \$250; Queen Ann, \$200; To Mr. J. M. Elliott, Talbot Co., Md.—Bull 2nd, Imperial Red Rose, \$200. To Mrs. Simon Wickes, Kent Co., Md.—Bull

Calf, Bella's Duke of Poplar Grove, \$75, (six months old.) To J. N. Messenger, Watsonstown, Pa., 6 Southdown lambs, \$90. To Chas. N. Hawkins, Va., one Cotswold buck lamb, \$15

Mr. T. Alexander Seth, of Baltimore, Md., has bought of Mr. William Crozier, Northport, Long Island, Champion's Inda and Maria Bisbane.

Col. Richard Colton, of St. Mary's Co., Md., lately bought, through us, a splendid yearling bull, of Frank Brown, Esq., Sykesville, Md., from his celebrated Patterson Devon herd, which is at present, the largest and choicest herd of Devon cattle in America.

JERSEYS FOR MARYLAND.—Mr. Andrew Banks, of Baltimore, has lately bought of Mr. Wm. Crozier, of Northport, Long Island, a young Jersey cow, Cottage Girl and her c. c. by Nobleman, of the Elms. Mr. Banks also purchased of Mr. J. N. Trainer, Linwood, Pa., Jersey heifer calf, Arawana May. Mr. Trainer writes the "Country Gentleman,"

"Mr. Banks owns Lord Rex the sire, also Arawana Buttercup, the dam of the above heifer, also two other heifers by the same sire and dam, these comprising the whole family. I purchased Arawana May when one month old, in June last, of Mr. T. Alex. Smith, but Mr. Banks being determined to own her, offered a very high price, which was my only reason for selling. She is a perfect specimen of her breed."

Correction.

In the letter of Mr. Fulford, in the 11th line, read *prize* for "pure."

It is the height of folly to wait until you are in bed with disease you may not get over for months, when you can be cured during the early symptoms by Parker's Ginger Tonic. We have known the sickliest families made the healthiest by timely use of this pure medicine.—*Observer*

Publications Received.

THE FARM AND GARDEN:—A new, monthly paper of 16 pages, well illustrated and useful to the farmer and gardener, as its title indicates. The editor is evidently well fitted for his position. Price 50 cents per year. Address the publisher, E. S. Child, 275 S. 4th street, Phila, Pa.

Messrs. Cushing & Bailey, of this city, have sent us the following books, from the press of the Orange Judd Co., N. Y.

THE AMERICAN BIRD FANCIER.—A neat, illustrated, paper covered, little book of 116 pages, by D. G. Browne, full of pleasant reading and useful information for those who keep singing birds and other attractive birds in aviaries or cages, pigeons, domesticated partridges, &c.

THE SADDLE HORSE—RIDING AND TRAINING.—This handsomely illustrated and printed little work contains many useful and valuable hints that every owner of a saddle horse should heed, and every learner to ride, male, as well as female, would be wise to attend to. Although liable to severe criticism in one or two of its suggestions it is well worth its price.

SILOS AND ENSILAGE.—Edited by Dr. George Thurber, of the American Agriculturist, is a concise compilation of great value to all who are interested in the new method of preserving fodder corn and other green fodder crops. It is illustrated, and the processes and advantages of the system are plainly and intelligently set forth. Every farmer should possess a copy of this little treatise.

THE SMALL FRUIT CULTURIST—By Andrew S. Fuller. New edition, revised and enlarged. Price—\$1.50. It is enough to say of this work that it has stood the test of time, and has become a standard work upon the interesting subjects on which it treats. Being highly practical and reliable, every fruit grower needs a copy.

A HAND-BOOK OF VIRGINIA.—By Dr. Thos. Pollard, Commissioner of Agriculture, of Va. 3rd edition, accompanied by a map of the State. We have heretofore spoken in high praise of this work, and again say, that it reflects great credit upon

the industry and ability of its author, and has been and will continue to be of immense value to the State; in inducing capital and labor to her borders. Such a statistical enumeration of the advantages of climate, soil, hidden treasures and exhaustless resources, only requiring development, should be compiled and published broad-cast by other States than Virginia. Maryland should be no longer behind the times, but like her progressive sister of the Old Dominion, have her Bureau of Agriculture to set forth her claims to the attention of capitalists, so as to attract them to her wonderful sources of wealth.

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION—is now in press, and will contain many able papers on various subjects connected with farming, by eminent writers. In future the Journal will be published quarterly, the next number appearing in January. This number will contain about 300 pages. Price 75 cents per copy. Free to members of the association. All who are interested in agriculture are eligible to membership. Annual dues, \$2.00. Three dollars sent now, will pay the dues both for this year and next, and entitle the person paying, to all the issues of the Journal for this year, and for 1882, and to all publications of the Association during that period. Address the Secretary and Editor.—*J. H. Reall, 127 Water St., N. Y.*

HARPER'S MAGAZINE for November, concluding the sixty-third volume, is a number of rare excellence. It is profusely illustrated in the best style of art, and filled with interesting merit by the best magazine writers of the day.

The editorial departments are full, as usual, of entertaining and useful matter; and the prospectus of the Magazine for the coming year shows that the forthcoming volumes will be even more interesting and beautiful than the volume just concluded—rich as the latter has been in literary and artistic treasures.

DESERVING articles are appreciated. The exceptional cleanliness of Parker's Hair Balsam makes it popular. Gray hairs are impossible with its occasional use.

The State Fair at Pimlico.

The fair at Pimlico this year was a great success in many respects, and yet not what we had hoped it would have been. The weather was good—the attendance fair to excellent. The racing was the grand attraction and proved to be as fine as could be expected. The contests were generally very closely contested and therefore elicited the deepest interest—the uncertainty as to the result of each race was well maintained from the beginning to the end of every trial. The favorites were as a rule beaten. The general show of fine horses was extensive, and there were many very fine exhibits by Ex-Gov. Bowie, Messrs. J. Merryman, J. W. Garrett, E. Lynch, and two or three others.

We saw no hogs except the splendid exhibit of Berkshires, by Mr. Fulford, of Bel-Air, Md. The show of sheep was limited, but such as were there were very good. The poultry show was well arranged and really very fine. It seemed to attract great attention on the part of the ladies, who thronged the building where great roosters and the spunky little bantams were crowing and showing off their elegant manners and fine plumage. Fowls were in great numbers and of every breed and class. It would be invidious to draw comparisons—often it seemed to be only the difference of “tweedle dum and tweedle dee,” between the competition in the several classes. We may, however, without offence say, that Mr. Dorsey's white turkies and the black Cochins of Bennett and Colby, and Mrs. Bowman's Langshan chicks, were the observed of all observers. The Games were in large number and were admired as true fighters of the “Blue Hen's Chickens.” The Bantams were supreme in their beauty and aristocratic arrogance—“very valuable articles put up in small packages.” The chief exhibitors were Messrs. T. B. Dorsey, Bennett and Colby, T. M. Nelson, E. Buckley, J. Baughman, J. Merryman, Mrs. Bowman, and Dr. G. H. Gaines.

Of cattle, it may be said that it was a splendid exhibition. The Guernseys, Mr. Phillips and Mr. Watts were the exhibitors, and those shown were well deserving notice, the bull of Mr. Watts was a beauty.

Channel Island cattle were exhibited by Messrs. W. W. Blunt, W. A. Coates and C. G. Shipley.

Jerseys were in force and some very remarkable as superior animals of that breed. Messrs. Andrew Banks, J. E. Phillips and T. Alex. Seth, were the chief exhibitors.

Herefords—A number of animals from the splendid herd of the President, J. Merriyman. They swept the premiums for Herefords in all the classes.

Devons.—Mr. Frank Brown had a large number of these beautiful cattle on exhibition, mostly young stock. They presented a splendid spectacle, and as they had no competitors, Mr. Brown took only a premium for best herd of Devons, declining to offer them in any other class. They are the original Patterson herd of great celebrity, kept up to the standard of first rank by regular importations of the best Devon bulls to be had in England. Mr. Brown's herd, at his farm, Springfield, consists of nearly two hundred head. They are all so much alike that we wonder how they can be distinguished one from another of the same age, like some twins we know, that have to wear different colored ribbons to tell Eliza from Jane.

Short horns—were not numerous, but Mr. Emory, of Centreville, Md., made a splendid exhibit. His red cows were greatly admired, and his roan bull was the wonder and admiration of everybody. We do not flatter, when we candidly admit, take him all in all, we never saw, in all our experience, so splendid and huge a Short-horn bull of his age. His form, symmetry and points are beyond any animal we ever beheld. What a grand animal he will be at five years old, if his health, and vigor and present promise continues.

Holsteins were exhibited by Mr. C. Lyon Rogers. They presented a very uncommonly uniform appearance in color, and contributed largely to the interest in the cattle department. We have seen both better and worse Holsteins. It is a breed of cattle for milk and beef that should be encouraged more than it heretofore has been in Maryland.

Why do not our farmers sometimes exhibit some of our native cows? There are, we know, many great milkers and butter making cows, called “native cows” in our State that are well worthy of exhibition, and if “pretty is, that pretty does,” be the the guide, would carry off the premiums often in competition with the high priced beauties from over the water,

Mr. C. K. Harrison exhibited a nice herd of Ayrshire cattle.

Agricultural Implements.—The principal exhibitors were E. Whitman, Sons & Co., Griffith & Turner, N. B. & W. D. Merryman, A. G. Mott, Joshua Thomas, C. Aultman & Co., Baltimore Plow Co., H. Burhman, Nash & Bros., D. A. McSherry & Co., G. R. Weaver, Cone Press Co., Adriant Platt & Co., C. D. Young, C. B. Jones, A. and A. G. Alford, and John Loekman.

There were several Reapers and Binders, and several fine Traction and Portable Steam Engines, which attracted great attention, of these we shall speak more fully next month, and give the lists of premiums awarded during the Fair, if we can obtain a correct copy.

Of the splendid performances of Dr. Downey's Scotch Collie or Shepherd Dogs, in the field with a large flock of sheep, each day, we have not words to express our admiration. One must see to believe the wonderful sagacity displayed by these superb dogs.

The House-hold Department, we regret to say, was like "some banquet hall deserted," with the venerable Brackenridge, the superintendent, marching sometimes all alone wrapt in his philosophical dreams with none to disturb him. He had to keep watch over a bag of oats, two of rye, some squashes, one specimen of fine early-rose potatoes, and two very nice lots of sweet potatoes—excellent for this climate and allowing for our excessive drought. These were the field products on exhibition in the grand exhibition hall of the State Society of Maryland. Where were Hyde, McHenry, Tyler, Corse and a host of those horticulturists that years ago thronged this great hall?

In the Ladies Department, there were two tables that did great credit to the lady exhibitors; Mrs. Jenifer had a profusion of garden fruits, vegetables, butter, ham, bread, cakes, jellies, cordials and wines and every imaginable delightful beverage, suited to the taste of all—the anti-alcoholic as well as those who like it "straight."

Mrs. Brackenridge had her beautiful biscuits and bread, &c., as usual, and her accomplished daughter exhibited a variety of fluids, jellies and preserves, as well as canned fruits. Some of her jellies were in color too beautiful, and seemed too nice, to be tasted or handled by the rough hands of man. The pears and jellies look-

ed superb. There were a few patch-work quilts that looked ownerless and as if wanting some society. On the whole the household was not encouraging. The bachelor secretary of the society should have more gallantly shown his devotion to the fair sex by insisting upon the staid executive committee a larger and more numerous list of premiums so as to entice the beauteous daughters of Maryland to enter upon the contest for supremacy as to qualifications for ruling a household and winning thereby the hearts of the masters thereof. Had a more liberal, or at least a diversified offer of premiums been offered, so that every lady in the land could have exhibited, if she chose, a single specimen of her needlework, or of success in any *one subject* of culinary skill, we predict the hall would have been filled as of yore with superb exhibits, and resounded with the merry voices of matrons and lassies, and been lustrous with a crowd of rural beauty and laughing health. We looked in vain for the flowers and plants of the florists of our great city, which once, we remember made the horticultural hall at Pimlico a glorious scene of loveliness. Where were the tall pyramids of canned fruits, and the great cases of rich, luscious grapes and other fruits, illustrative of Maryland as one of the greatest and most successful fruit-growing States of this Union? Echo answered where?

We are not finding fault, but in a friendly spirit throw out hints for another year's consideration.

The Jockey Club so ably and successfully managed as a Club, would seem now to have taken the Agricultural Society under its wing and we may hope that its powerful means, great popularity and executive ability will be able to overcome in the future those unavoidable difficulties the late officers of this Association have had to encounter, and which they have to a great extent overcome the past year, to their great credit. The regretted illness of President Merryman has been a decided drawback to the success of the Institution and the wonder is, how without him, the present Fair has been so successful. To the newly elected President, Mr. Brown, much honor and credit is due, as the authorized representative of Mr. Merryman, and he, Mr. B., has been well sustained by the officers and Executive Committee.—Another year we look for even brighter skies and grander results.